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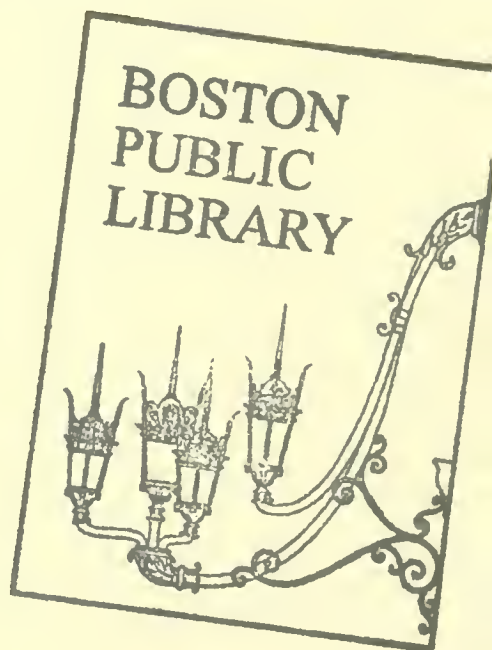
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HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT:  
THE CUSTOM HOUSE AND TOWER

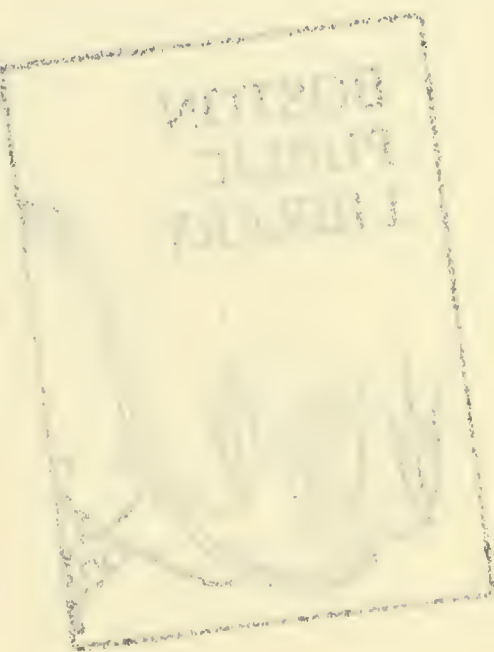
VOLUME II:  
EXISTING CONDITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Prepared by:

SARA B. CHASE  
and  
ANNE A. GRADY



SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF  
NEW ENGLAND ANTIQUITIES  
CONSERVATION CENTER





Cover: R.S. Peabody, sketch, "Custom House as seen from the Port of Boston," Boston Architectural Club Yearbook, 1909; Ammi Young, plaster model of the Custom House, Boston, ca. 1837, property of the United States Government.

Report production by Elisabeth C. Byers and Donna Montesanti.





HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT:  
THE CUSTOM HOUSE AND TOWER

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SECTION I  
INTRODUCTORY SUMMARY



## INTRODUCTION

Clad in Quincy granite with one area of Vermont marble on the exterior and actively maintained as a Federal office building, the Boston Custom House of 1837-47 and its added Tower (1911-1915) have not only retained much original material, but have also remained in reasonably sound condition. Now, more than 70 years since the construction of the Tower, this study of the present state of the building and its maintenance will include preservation considerations as well as mention of routine repairs as needed.

First priority considerations must be of the work needed to create a weathertight shell and structural soundness. This report, therefore, will look first at the exterior - especially roofs, gutters, drains, masonry and mortar, and metal work. Second, examination of the interior with its historic materials will take into account their relative historic merit. The interior masonry, metals, plaster and paint, wood trim, and the design of all of these elements will be evaluated in terms both of their conditions and of their place in the history of the building.





CHAPTER 1  
EXTERIOR CONDITIONS





## CHAPTER 1: EXTERIOR CONDITIONS

### 1.1 GENERAL CONDITIONS

The most significant existing condition on the exterior of the Custom House is the building's lack of watertightness. In two areas in particular, water damage has gone on for some time: on the east side of the building, particularly on the east walls of the two major rooms of the north and south flanks of the Young portion of the building, and in the rooms above the twenty-fifth floor. The signs of damage caused by water are clear; in the major rooms there are sizable areas of paint loss, skim-coat peeling, and efflorescence on the plaster, some of which is decorative work dating from the Mullett period of the late 1860s. The rooms near the top of the Tower have a perpetual smell of damp stone and plaster, and varying amounts of efflorescence are visible. Another area which shows severe damage along the east wall is the area around the dome. Peabody and Stearn's design in this area provides for light to filter into the rotunda by having the floor around the dome's structure set with glass blocks of the sort that exist outside the building in some of the basement light wells. These blocks permit transmittal of light from the large windows in the exterior walls of the dome area. One might think that the windows are leaking on the east wall, but such examination as we could do did not seem to confirm that.

The cause of the water damage seems rather to be faulty drainage systems. On the north and south flanks

of the Young portion of the building, one can see clear evidence on a rainy day that the gutters at the top of those flanks seem clogged at the ends where they join the main block of the building. Most likely that is where the downspouts are located, and they simply need to be opened or otherwise made operable.

There are signs of ad hoc leak treatment on the stone block roofs of those flanks by means of applications of roofing tar to some of the overlap joints of the stones, but there are no signs inside that the roofs leak. Unfortunately this investigator could not see the gutter edges of the roofs very well from the existing catwalks on the ridges of the roofs.

The faults of the drainage system on the Peabody and Stearns Tower portion of the building are also fairly easy to read. On each side of the tower at the 25th floor, two six-inch drain holes exist in the tile floor of each outside balcony. The pitch of these floors is good and water does run toward the holes which connect with interior downspouts as shown on the drawings. However, the water soon collects on the floors of the balconies, especially the east balcony, and runs over the outer edges. Again, on a rainy day, one can see the water stains running down the north corner of the east wall of the Tower most clearly. Similar water flow can be seen at the east corner of the south side as well.

One of the most important steps to bring the Custom House and Tower to sound condition, then, is to make the drainage systems fully operable. New design may be necessary if the existing materials (interior leaders and the like) are deteriorated beyond rehabilitation.

The dampness in the higher rooms of the Tower

presents a more difficult problem. The construction in these areas consists of granite laid over terra cotta tile backing with anchors of metal (as shown in Peabody and Stearns drawings and in later drawings of "repairs" to the Tower). It may be that one cause of the problem is simply that this tall slender structure is inevitably sensitive to the hard wind-driven rains from northeast storms which periodically pound it. Nothing stands between it and the waterfront to deflect winds.

In order to make these areas usable, some consideration may have to be given to some sort of interior waterproof membrane. Another obvious suggestion is to apply a chemical water barrier to the stone on the exterior, but this seems to me to have some risks, and to provide not as much protection as will be needed. I recommend that a more experienced masonry consultant consider this alternative.

## 1.2 MASONRY & MORTAR

It is always tempting to believe that water is penetrating a building through the mortar joints, but a careful check with binoculars and spot checking by leaning out of windows did not reveal any major erosion of mortar. In about 1970 an off-white caulk was applied to every joint. It is alligatored and dry, but seems firmly adhered in 90% of the areas checked (Fig. 1). Mortar is needed around the west steps, however, and in areas where air conditioner installation has damaged the stone (Figs. 3, 14).

On the whole, though, the exterior granite masonry is sound. Peabody and Stearns replaced a number of cracked stones, as their drawings show, and while a few more have some cracks, there are no clear signs of major problems with the granite. When repointing is done, however, it would be good to replace the existing light grey and dark grey caulk with mortar which matches the granite (Figs. 10-15). There is a chip on the South portico raking cornice (Fig. 14).

The exterior marble around the great clock face is also in reasonably good condition, but would benefit from careful cleaning. The iron cramps which hold the clock face stone work are rusting and causing stains. In the few areas in need of repointing on the marble, a high-lime mortar should be used and should match the marble so that joint lines do not read as a different color.

While the Tower, which seems to be of a slightly lighter granite looks clean enough, some areas of the Young portion would look better with a light cleaning, especially on the north, east, and west facades.

### 1.3 METALS

Exterior metal work conditions are quite various. At the peak of the Tower is a newly installed open-work "finial," which, while it copies the design of the original as done by Peabody and Stearns, does not quite have the same proportions or thickness and thinness of members. Moreover, their finial was made of iron, to be painted. No color was called out on the drawings and no evidence exists, but a stone colored paint seems most likely. It is, however, in excellent condition. A 1945 drawing for roof repairs notes a drain & outlet on floor 30 below the metal. The iron flag poles and their brackets at the 27th floor (as seen from the Bay Tower Room at 60 State Street) are causing some staining on the granite, and should be checked to be sure that the metal as it rusts will not cause the stone to spall. These do not showup on the Peabody & Stearns drawings, and thus must have been part of a later modification, or maybe, as so much was, part of the 1950 refurbishment.

The balcony on the twenty-fifth floor has a guard designed by Peabody & Stearns as early as 1915, but the present guard has some modifications. In the 1945 drawings for roof repairs, it is called the "picket fence."

Exterior copper work includes the decorative spandrels above floors 16, 17, and 18. On the south, east, and north facades these are mostly covered with verdigris, but even there and especially on the west facade, the second stage of corrosion which has a black appearance, should be removed.

The clock has copper work, which is staining the stone below it, particularly on the north and west facades. Miscellaneous copper exists on the Young building as protective caps over the projecting blocks above the capitols of the columns. In some places there seems to be mortar, in others copper. Additional copperwork exists in the form of standing seam roofs at the base of each triangular pediment. In general these seem to be in acceptable condition. Peabody & Stearns drawings call for copper flashing where the north and south flank roofs meet the main block, and along the gutters of the Young building, but this copperwork could not be examined.

Bronze work on the exterior includes the now unused east and west doors on the first floor. The patination seems relatively good at present.

Perhaps the most extensive exterior metal work is that of the sash: some 416 pairs of "Kalamein Wood," a cooper-clad wood sash used on Cass Gilbert's 1905-1910 Custom House in New York as well as here, and the ca. 1950 replacement steel sash in the north and south flanks of the Young building. The Kalamein sash are in fairly good condition throughout, but the steel sash should certainly be replaced as they are causing rust stains on the granite, and are deteriorating, and are not in keeping with the historic appearance of the building.

A miscellaneous metal item which should be removed is the hand rail on the west elevation.





Figure 1

View of typical caulking in old crack



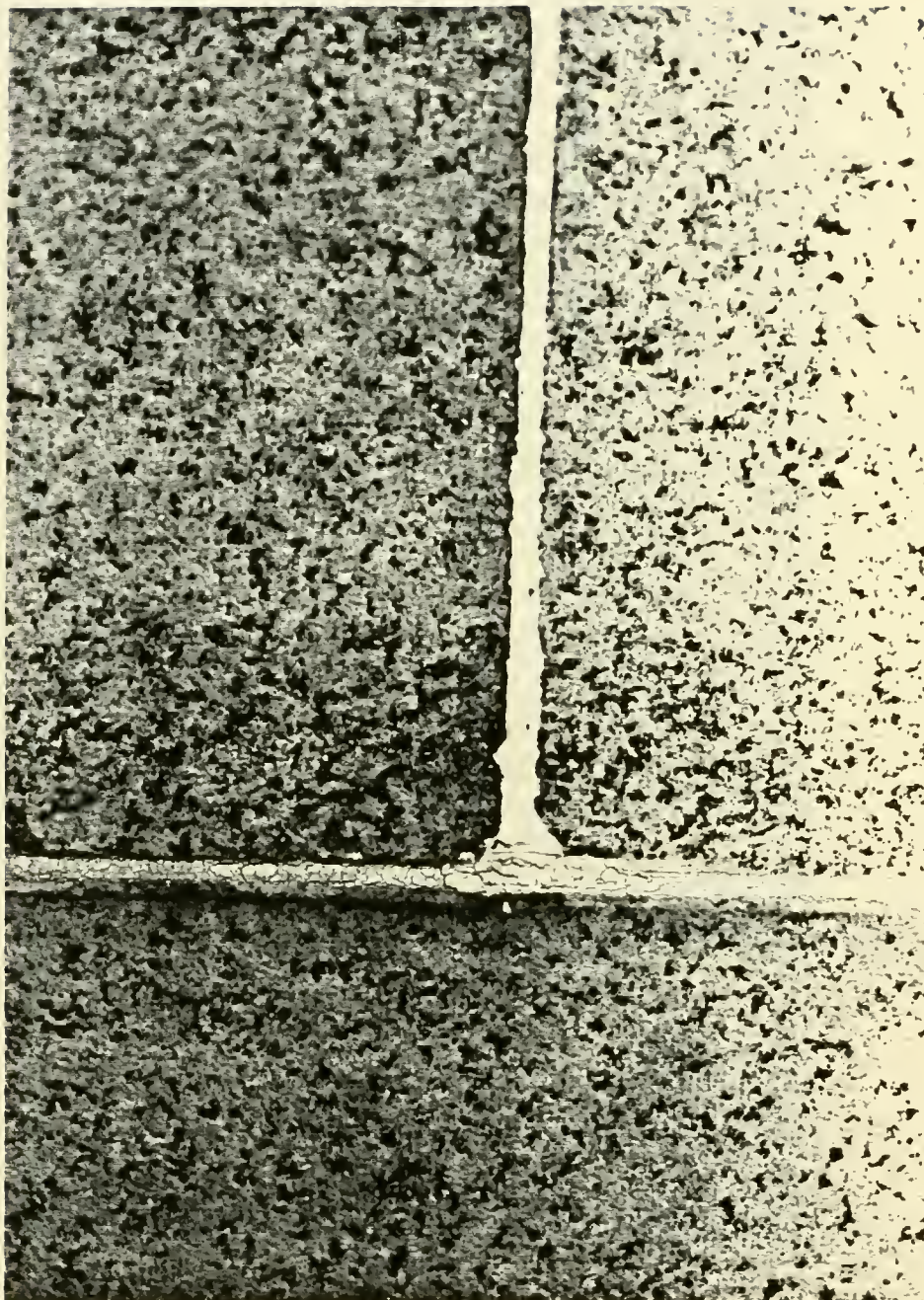


Figure 2

View of typical conditions of old 1970 caulk  
and newer caulk in stone joints



Figure 3

Basement window, East facade.  
Typical conditions



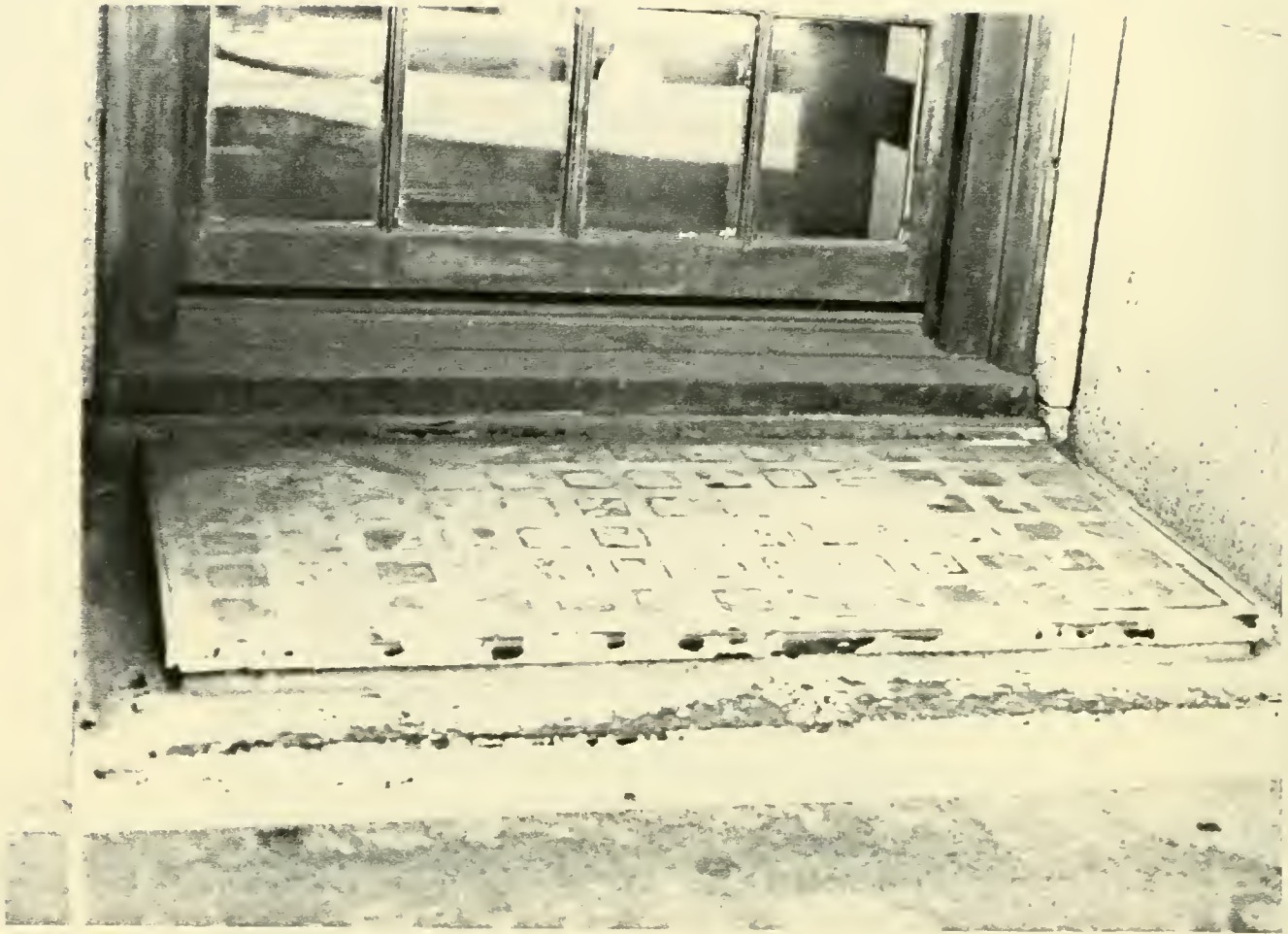


Figure 4

View of typical sub-basement  
window well light grate



Figure 5

South side, street level  
Typical condition of all window lintels.



Figure 6

East entry, basement level



Figure 7

View of North facade,  
street level (basement)



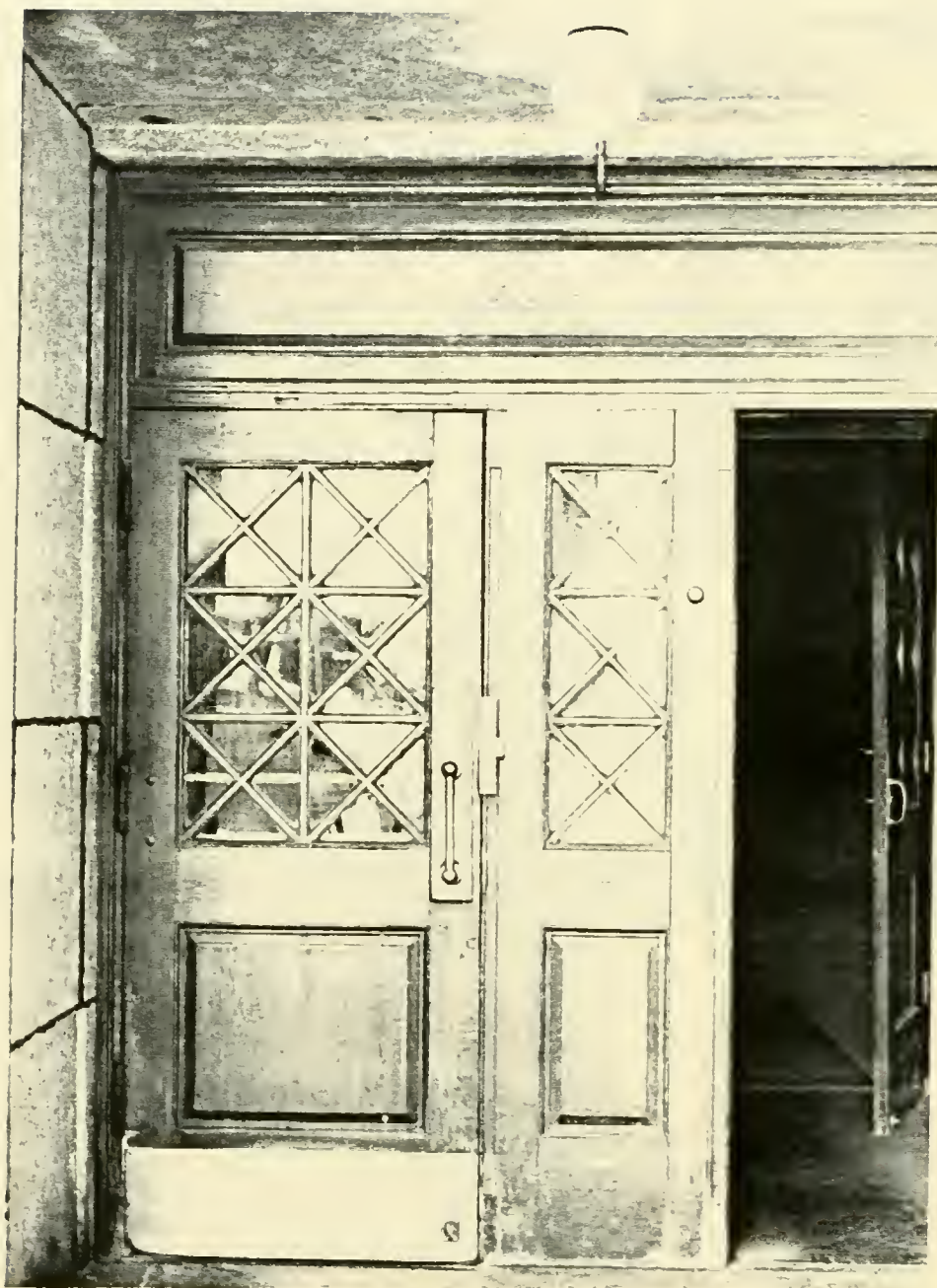


Figure 8

North basement entry



Figure 9

Black caulk at East side of  
North basement entry





Figure 10

South basement entry



Figure 11

South end of South portico  
(chipped raking cornice)

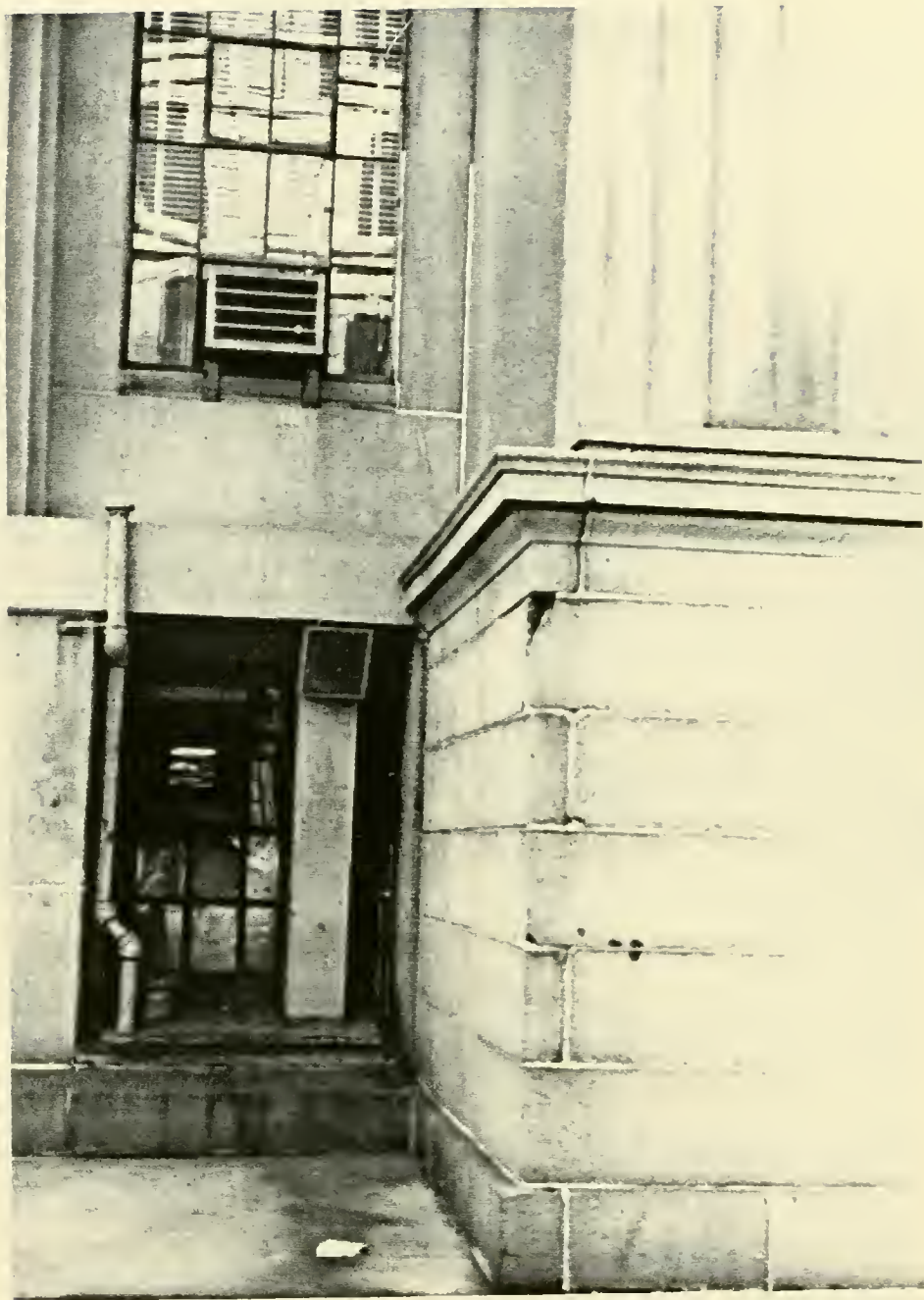


Figure 12

Basement window and South corner  
of portico base, East facade





Figure 13

East portico during hard rain

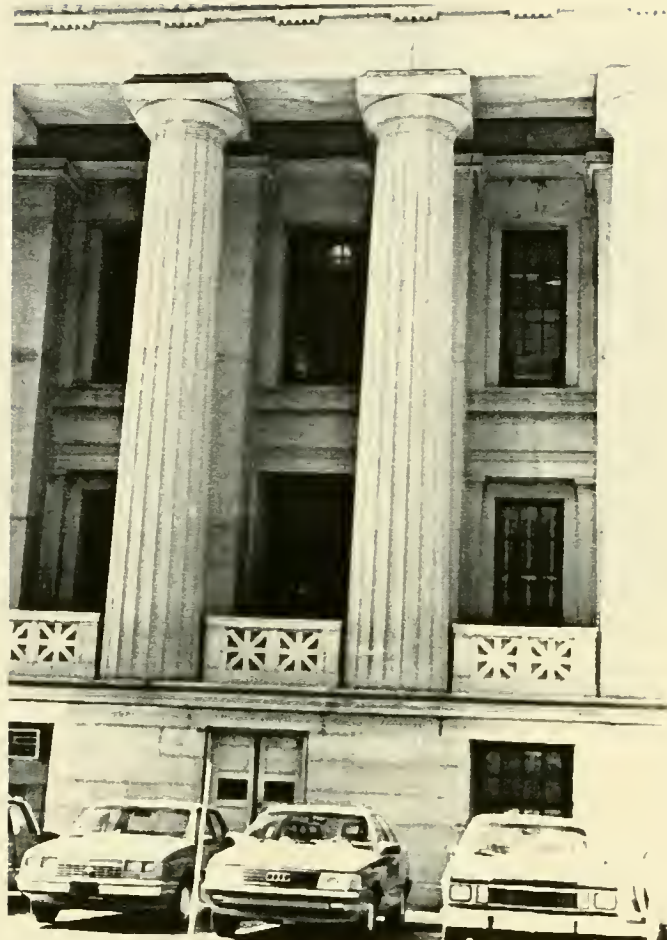


Figure 14

View of East portico



Figure 15

View of water stains in soffit,  
Southern flank, East facade



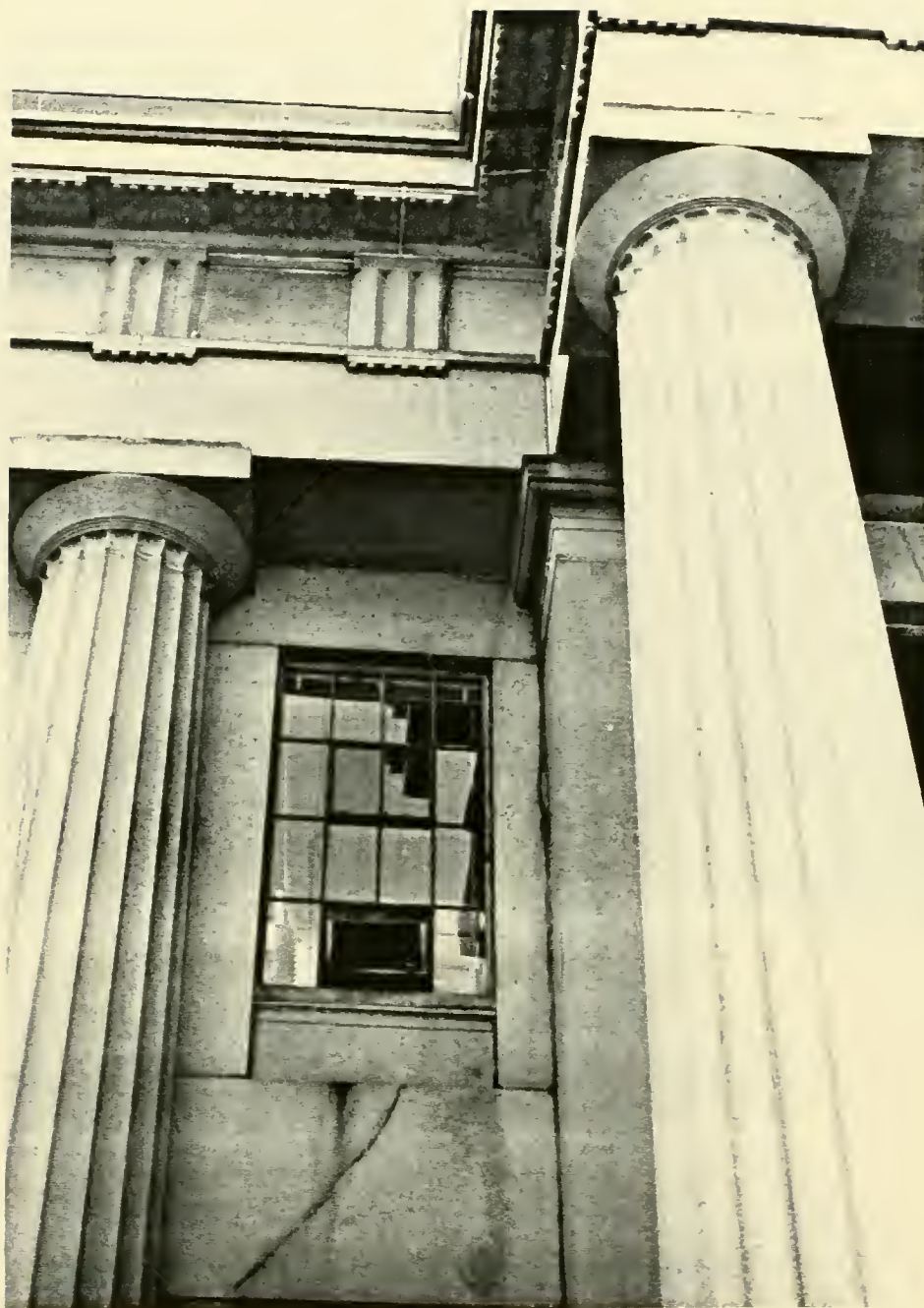


Figure 16

Second floor window just to South of portico,  
East facade



Figure 17

View of water stains, East facade,  
North corner of portico



Figure 18

Main Entry, First Floor, East facade

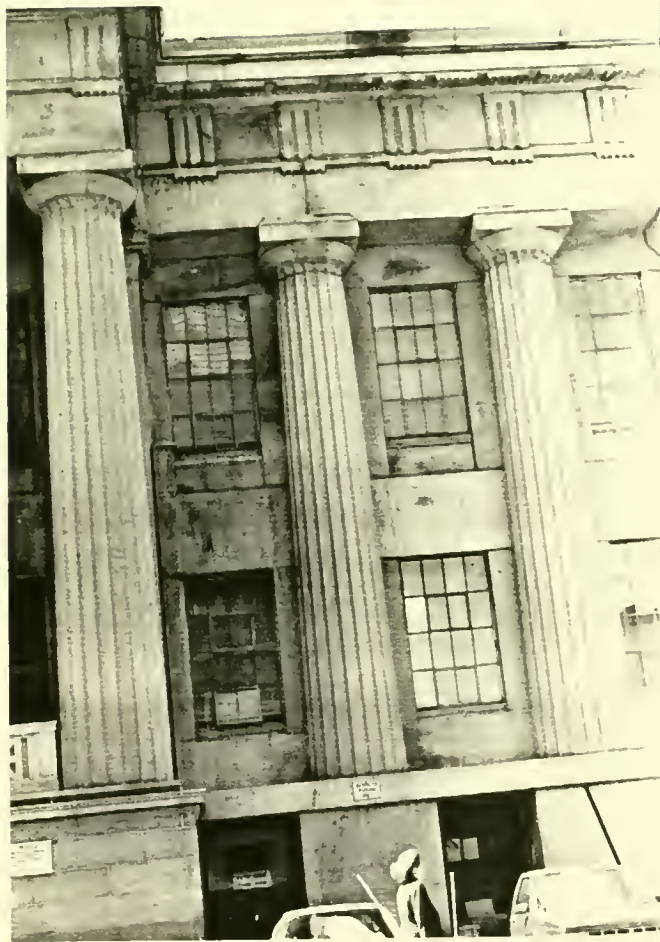


Figure 19

Northern side of East elevation.  
Dark areas correspond with severe  
interior water damage.





Figure 20

North corner of East portico first floor level  
(dark water stains, poorly located vent)



Figure 21

East wall. Dark areas correspond with  
severe interior water damage.



Figure 22

View of West wall  
to North of West Entry





Figure 23

View of full entablature,  
North portion of West wall



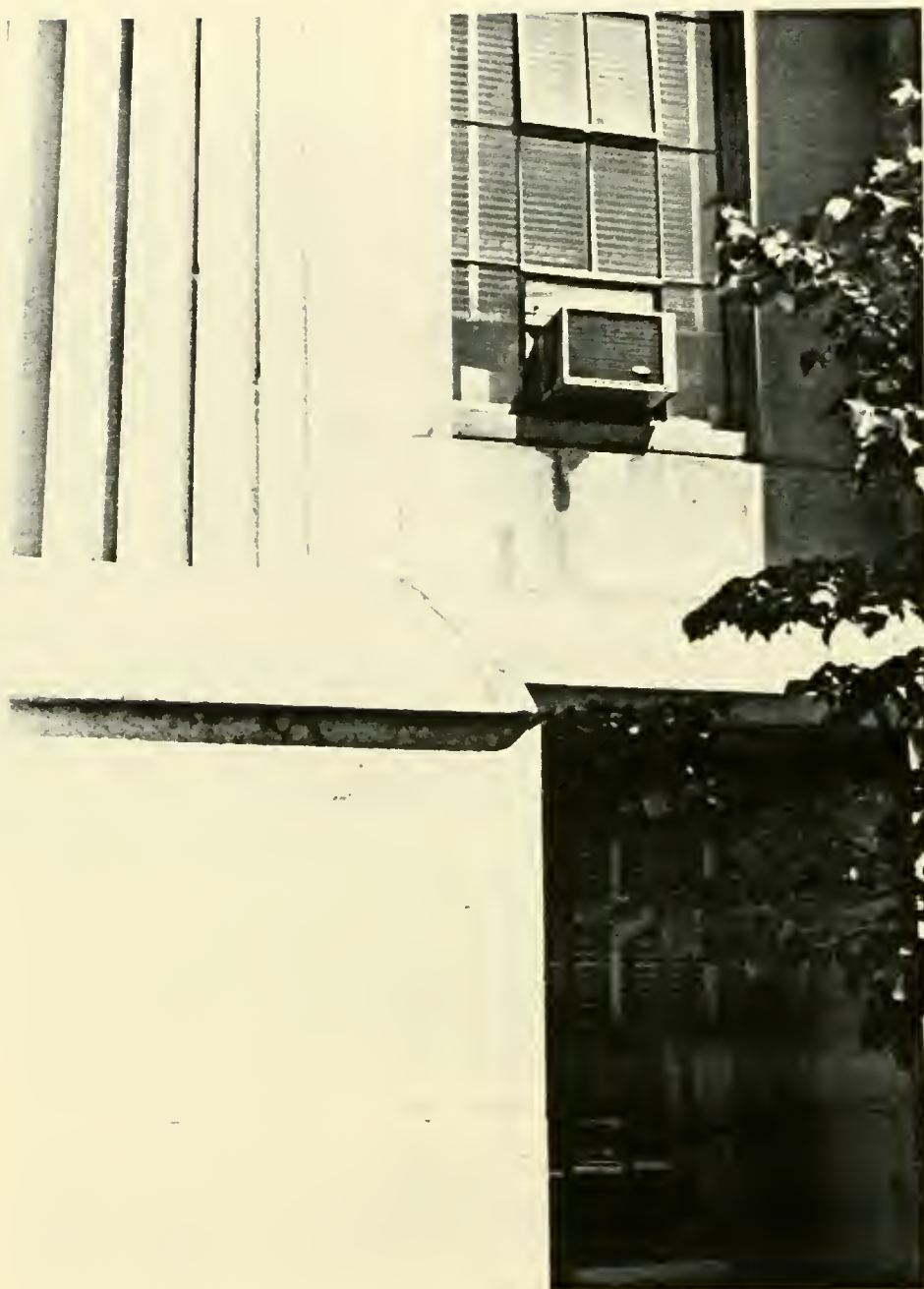


Figure 24

View of West wall, First Floor  
(Typical window conditions)



Figure 25

West side, South corner  
Typical remnants of sign adhesive



Figure 26

West Entry, 1st floor



Figure 27

West Entry steps, North corner



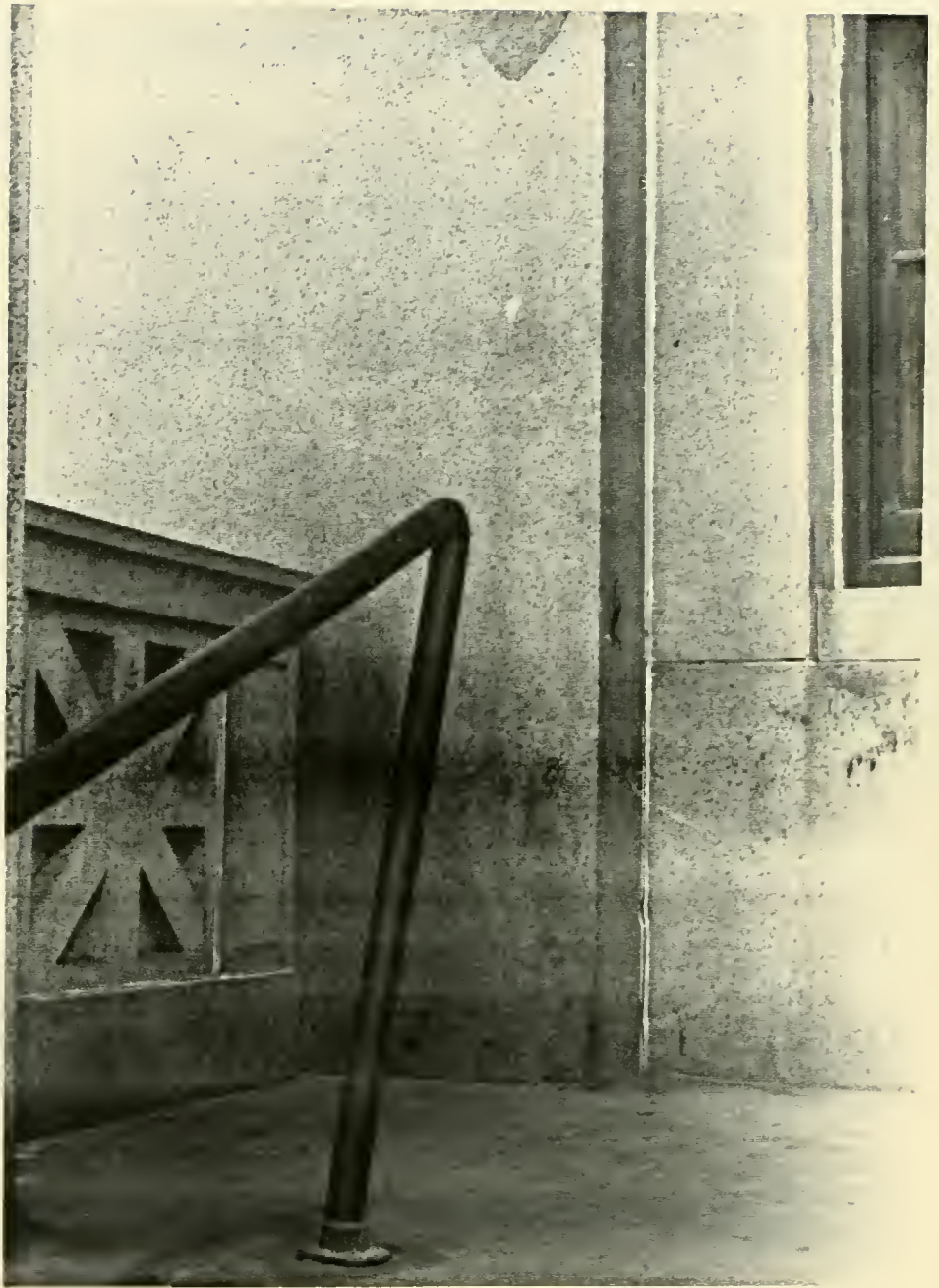


Figure 28

North handrail of West Entry



Figure 29

Window under portico of West Entry  
(to the North)

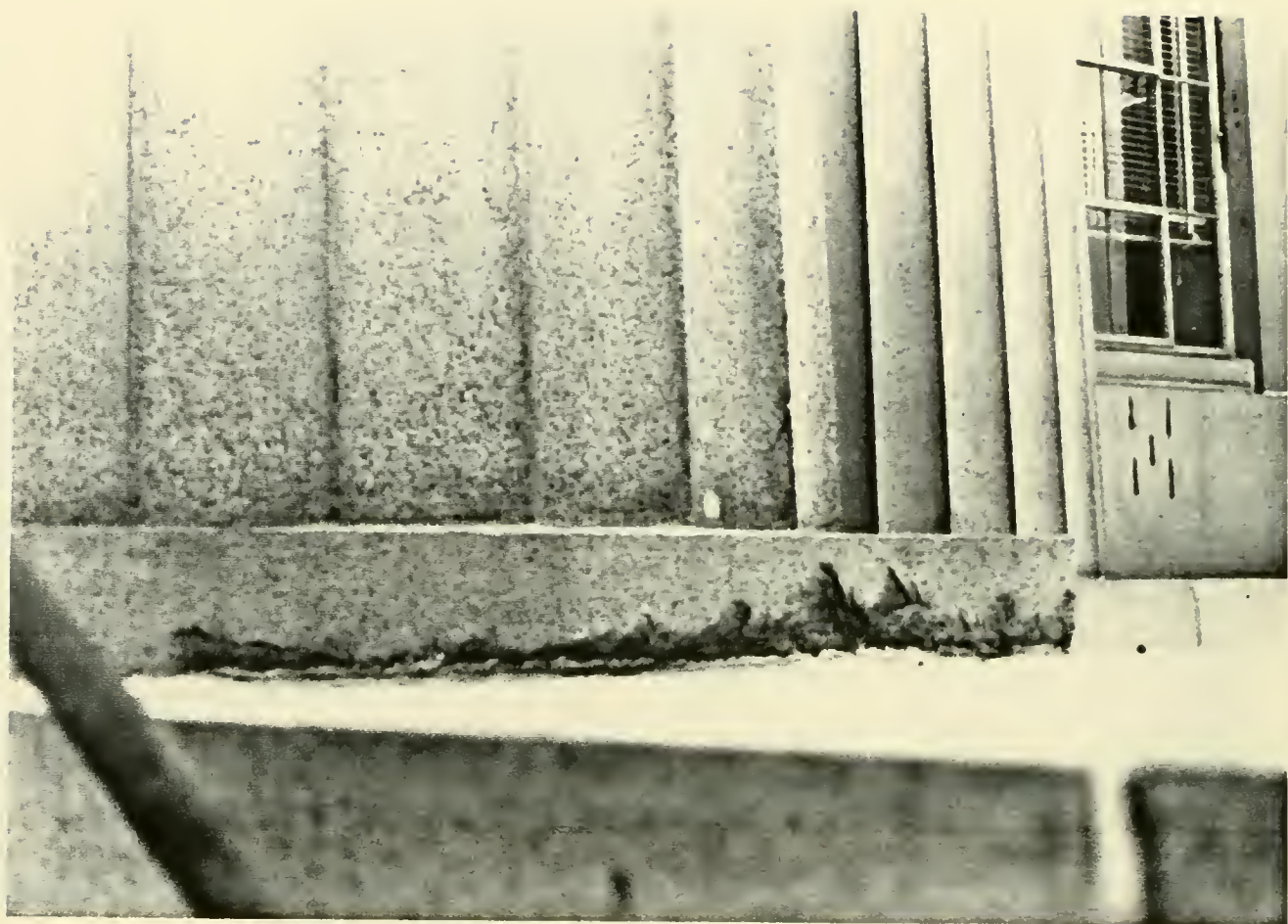


Figure 30

West Entry  
base of column to the South





Figure 31

First Floor window, East wall  
(Typical conditions)





Figure 32

West wall, window over Entry (2nd floor)



Figure 33

1st floor window on West wall,  
North of Entry (Typical conditions)



Figure 34

East corner of North wall, dome area



Figure 35

Stone conditions on North wall,  
Floors 5 and 6





Figure 36

Typical condition of copper grille,  
North side of tower

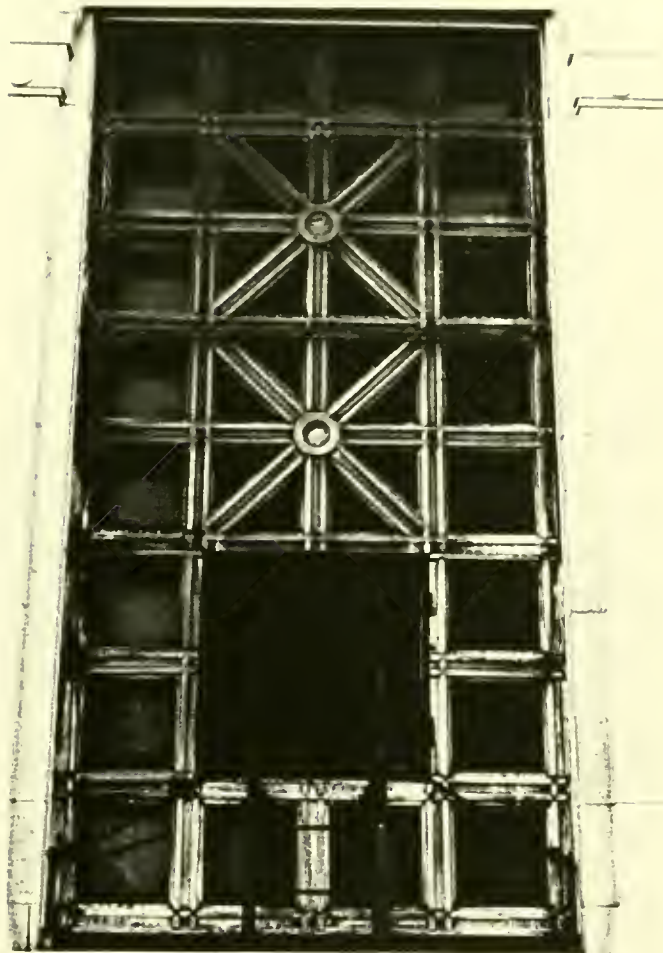


Figure 37

Hinged portion of copper grille missing  
North wall, dome area



Figure 38

South face of Southeast corner



Figure 39

View of boardwalk and flag pole  
North roof





Figure 40

Northwest corner of West slope of North roof



Figure 41

Flashing and stone detail on North wall  
as seen from North roof boardwalk

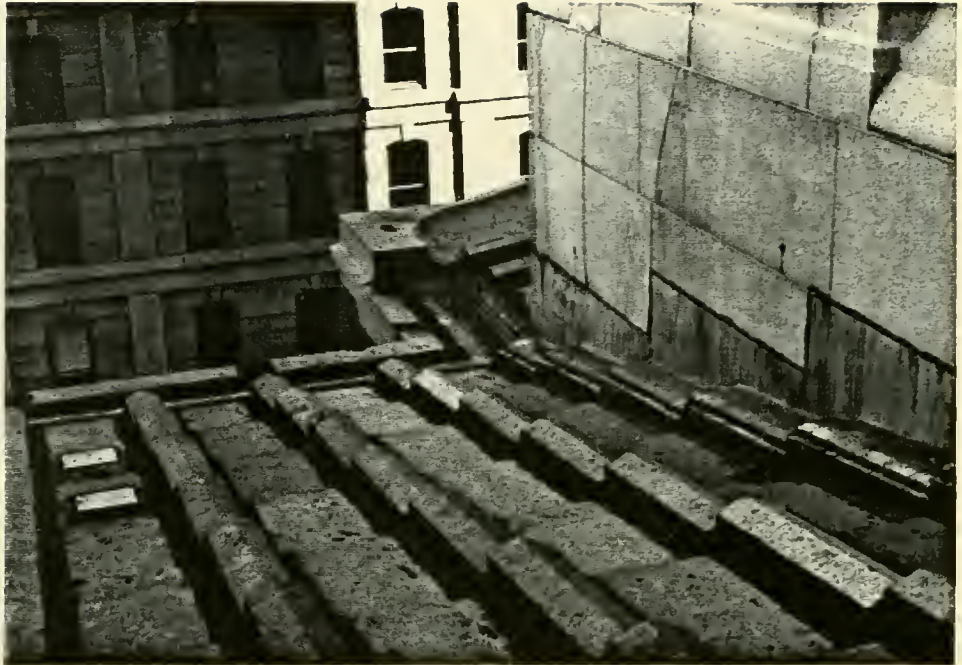


Figure 42

West slope of South roof

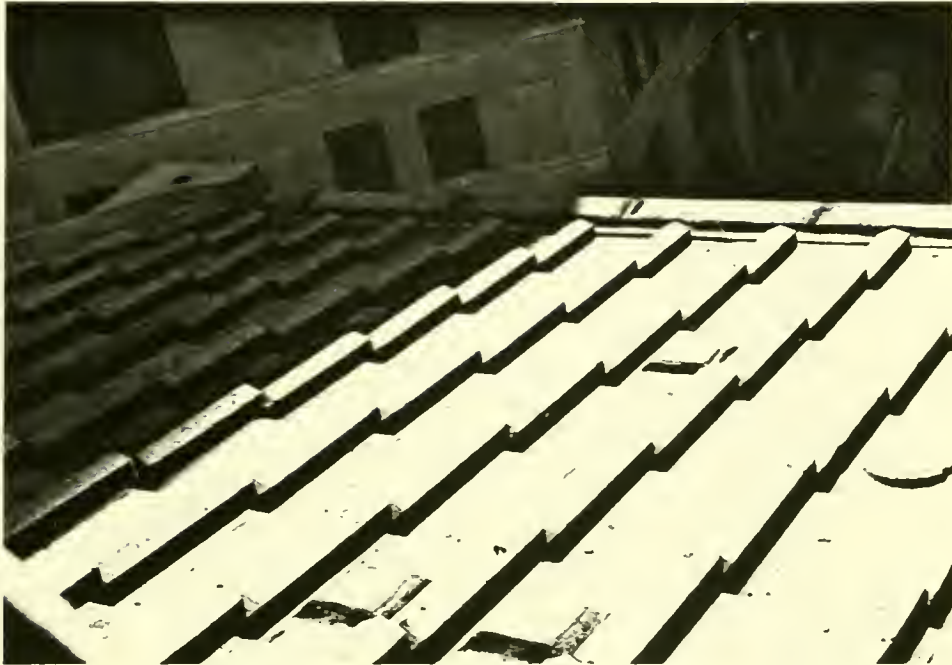


Figure 43

West slope of South roof



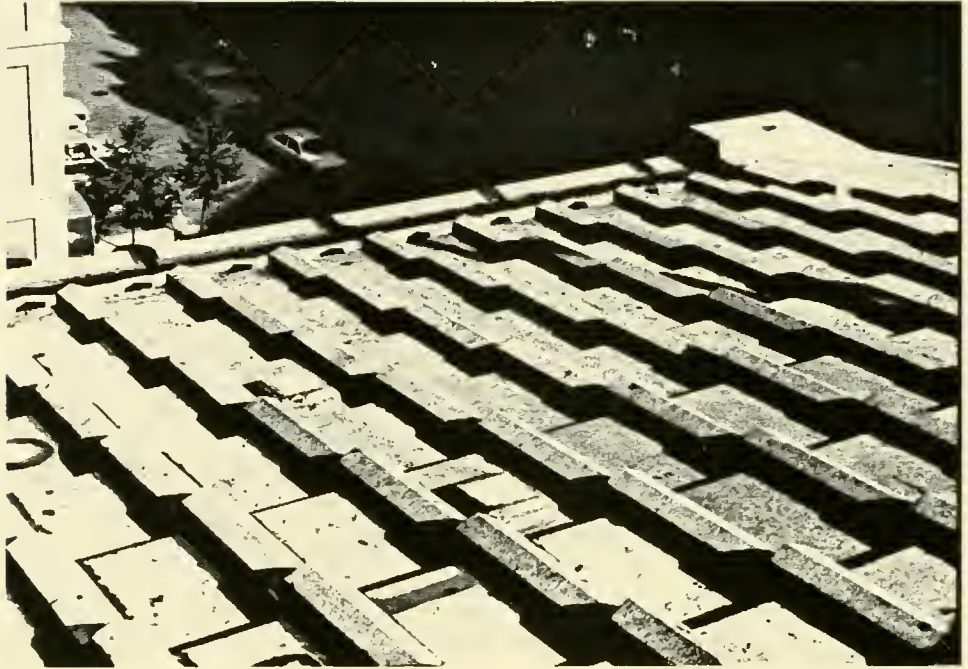


Figure 44

East slope of South roof

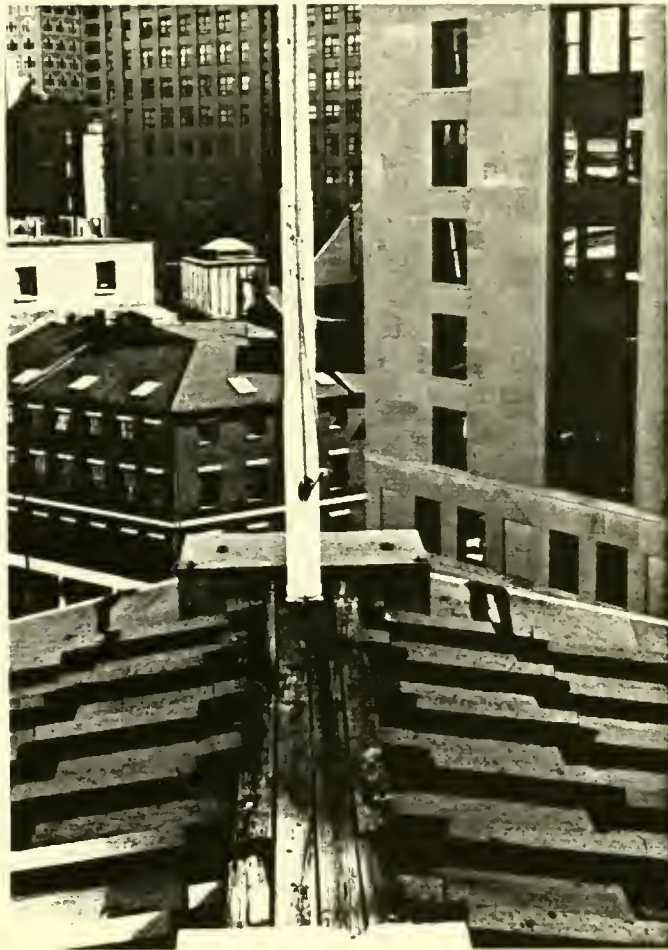


Figure 45

Ridge and boardwalk of South roof

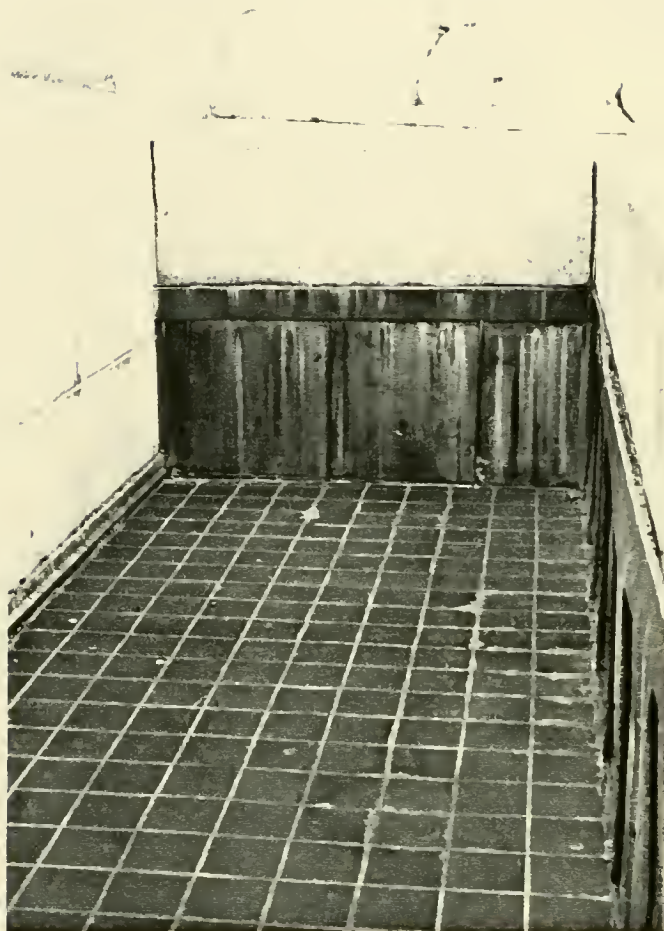


Figure 46

Copper cap and loose flashing,  
East balcony, Floor 20

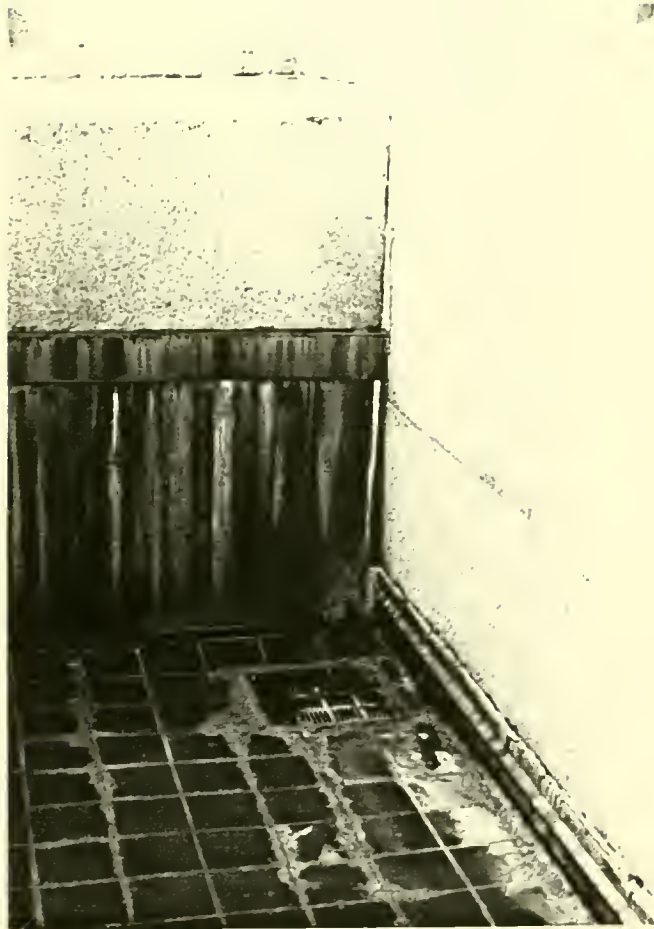


Figure 47

Drain in tile floor, Southeast corner of  
East balcony, Floor 20. Clogged?

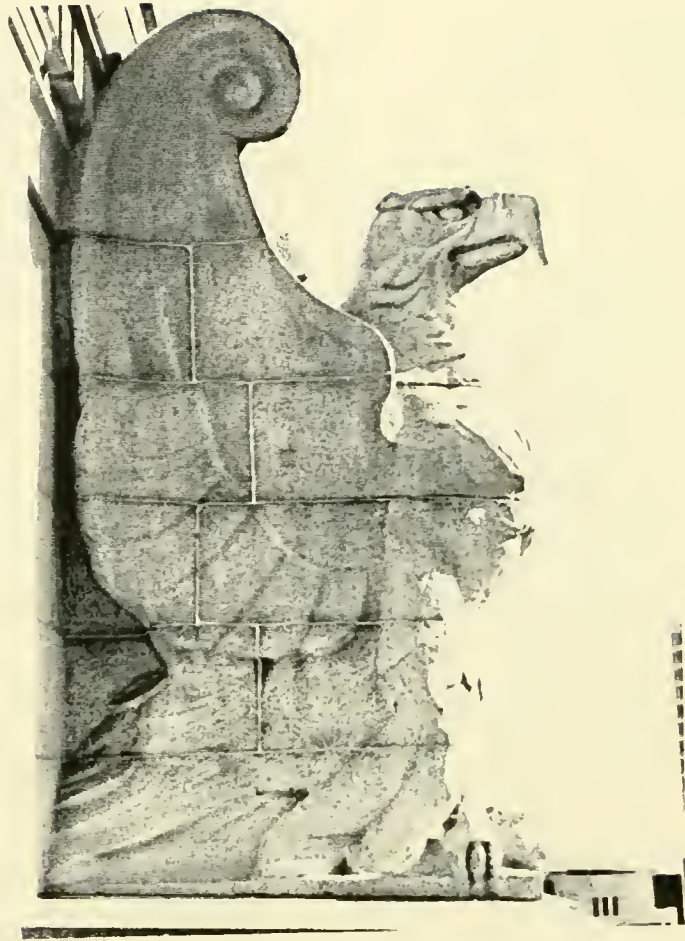


Figure 48

Eagle on Southwest corner of balcony  
Floor 20





Figure 49

Eagle on Southeast corner, 20th floor.  
More white caulk.



Figure 50

Eagle on Northeast corner of balcony  
Floor 20



Figure 51

Window on West wall, Floor 20  
Typical conditions

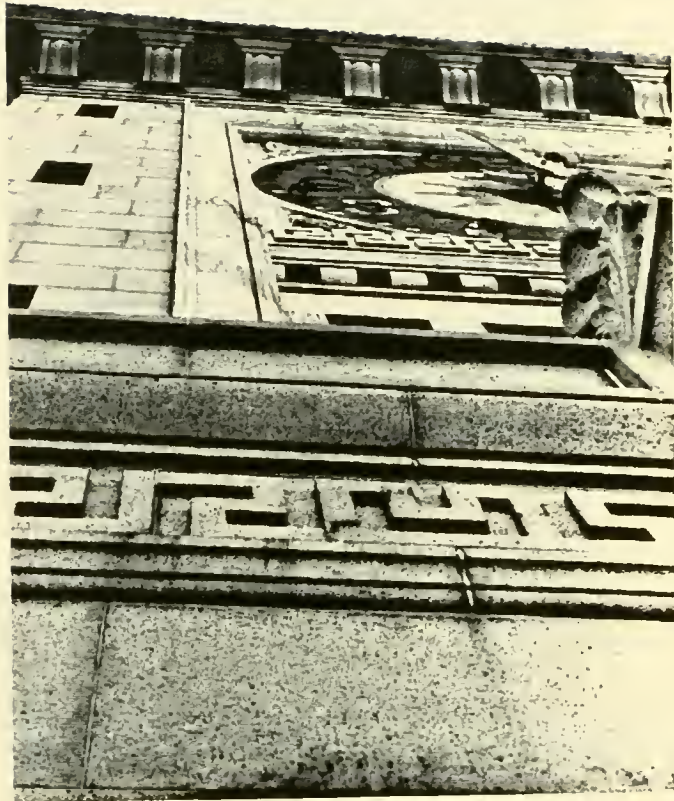


Figure 52

Clock face seen from West balcony, Floor 20  
(Signs of dampness at joints)



CHAPTER 2

INTERIOR CONDITIONS



## CHAPTER 2: INTERIOR CONDITIONS

### 2.1 MASONRY

Since the primary material which remains from Ammi Young's building is the granite, inside as well as outside, it seems reasonable to start with a description of the conditions of the 1847 granite. At the sub-basement and basement levels, the supporting piers and Tuscan columns (turned from single blocks of stone) exist (cf. Figures 20,21, & 22), as well as granite walls on the basement floor under the rotunda and in the north and south entry corridors, where are also engaged Tuscan columns of granite. Peabody & Stearns indicate on drawings that they replaced the granite interior work on the south, and it is a very good match to the original work on the north.

While this granite is free from cracks or spalling, it is stained and dirty. Passing hands have left oil which has become blackened; floor waxes have splashed up on the granite some two to four inches and also have blackened. Most of the pointing is of a fine grapevine profile with a grey mortar which matches the granite, but the few areas of repointing are clumsy.

It is interesting that both inside and out, all of the granite has a smooth, almost honed rather than tooled, finish. The original specifications might add further information about the granite.

In general, the interior granite is sound and needs only cleaning.

## 1.2 MARBLE

The interior marble of the rotunda dates from 1911-1915, and is the most prominent of the areas of interior masonry. While the marble dado and window surrounds of the Collector's Office and the Auditors' Room, a soft grey-white veined with grey, may date from 1837, it is not nearly so visible, and seems to be in good condition in both spaces. The rotunda and stairway marble, on the other hand, have some unevenness of appearance. Some of the honey-colored areas are possibly natural, but others, such as on the east wall of the short entry corridor to the Auditors' Room, show definite drips. Along the stair, there seems to have been some sort of abrasive cleaning, since this marble is much rougher on the surface than that of the cut-out portion of the balustrade around the opening of the first floor. The blocks have been laid up in very thin mortar beds, and in a few areas the face mortar or caulk is beginning to come out.

The marble floors (Peabody & Stearns) seem to be well-waxed. There is minimal chipping at the edges and some collecting of dirt in the joints, but on the whole they are in good shape. The marble stair treads had granolithic treads laid on top of them ca. 1950. It should be noted that the stairs in the diagonally opposite corner, the northeast corner, serving as a sort of service stair, seem unchanged from 1915, being of iron and slate.

Additional marble work exists in the bathrooms, mostly of Peabody & Stearns vintage, with the partitions being of a rose-grey marble. Typical of the period is the white glazed terra cotta tile work of the floors and



walls. A single bathroom exists on each office floor, in the space between the freight elevator and the passenger elevators, with men's and women's rooms alternating on every other floor.

## 2.3 PLASTER

The ceilings and cornices are all of plaster in the major spaces of the Young building, and plaster makes up the exterior walls of virtually all of the offices. In the areas closest to the central portion of the building on the east walls of the Collector's Office and the Auditor's Room significant areas of decorative cornice are severely damaged and need to be replaced in kind.

It was difficult to check the plaster work in the offices of the fifth through nineteenth floors, as new partitions and dropped ceilings existed throughout. It appears, however, in the areas where I did check that most of the Peabody & Stearns plaster work is still sound, needing only skim coat and paint touch-up.

## 2.4 METALS

In the rotunda area, the balustrade around the gallery is called out in Peabody & Stearns drawings as bronze, but at present a coat of light turquoise paint covers it. The bronze-pointed iron grilles above in the dome area remain as they were originally done. The stair balustrades seem to have been iron painted with a bronze paint and other paints, and also conform to Peabody & Stearns drawings.

The elevator doors, however, are not bronze and do not match the 1911-1915 drawings. They are steel, covered originally with a bronze paint with no areas picked out uniformly bronze colored. They probably date from the ca. 1950 refurbishment.

Perhaps the most conspicuous metal item is the star with the great seal, affixed to the oculus of the dome in ca. 1950, and made of 1/4 inch steel plate with gold leaf and paints. The drawing for this even specifies that the head of the eagle face due east. (The surrounding bands of white & gilded plaster are also called out in this drawing.)

There is very little woodwork of either 1847 or 1915 that could be found in major spaces, or of any significance. The need for fire-proof construction accounts for the great predominance of metal and a wide variety of masonry materials. Peabody and Stearns did install wooden doors on the basement (street) floor leading in from the outside, and additional wooden swinging doors to the rotunda area at that level. The finish is varnish over wood with a relatively light stain, and some areas exist where over-zealous polishing of the brass hardware has damaged the wood.

## 2.5 PAINT

Paint, on the other hand, bears mentioning. In general, the walls of the offices, as noted by examination with a hand lens and focused flashlight beam, had the soft, slightly greyed, low chroma colors of the nineteen-teens: rosy greys, grey-greens, and an almost peach color. In the Auditor's Room, however, the original wall color was a grey slightly lighter than the marble trim's veins, with white on the decorative cornice (c. 1867). The ceiling and cornice have only two to three layers, so may well have been calcimined, with the calcimine washed off again and again over the years. The Collector's Office, had a sea-greenish blue on the wave cornice, possibly from Young's original but also possibly Mullett (c.1867).

The present yellow on so many of the walls seems to have been the GSA's answer to slightly darker older buildings. It was also abundantly present in the National Archives building in Washington (J.R. Pope, 1935) put on in the early 1980's, and on several other GSA buildings in Washington.

## 2.6 MISSING INTERIOR FEATURES

The most significant interior features which were part of the Peabody & Stearns design and are now missing are the light fixtures. Drawings exist with designs by Tiffany for fixtures throughout the building. As these fixtures have a restrained elegance, in spite of being fairly typical of the sort used in commercial and office buildings in the early twentieth century, it is a shame that they are gone.

As Margaret Floyd has pointed out, also missing are the open wells between two floors of offices at the fifth, seventh, and eleventh floors. Designed by Peabody & Stearns as two-story spaces in the center, with offices off an upper story gallery, they seem to have been closed over (floored-through) either during or shortly after construction. There was no physical evidence to support this either way.

Peabody & Stearns original treatment of the dome, and oculus, was covered over in ca. 1950 with the present metal star. The elevators have been modified in style of front and cab, but not in location, in ca. 1950 and later. The grille at the head of the main stairs on the second floor is original, however, to Peabody & Stearns design. Interestingly, it was originally painted a soft marbly grey.





CHAPTER 3

PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS



## CHAPTER 3: PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

These recommendations are for the present presented in a simple point-by-point fashion. Further justification and expansion will be provided shortly. They are based equally on considerations of the health of the building and on the historic significance of the various architectural elements.

Of primary importance historically is the remaining Ammi Young design and materials: the floorplan of the base of the tower, the "temple," and the granite work both inside and outside.

Of almost equal significance are the design and materials features of Peabody & Stearns 1915 building, even though they modified much of Young's interior.

In the Auditor's Room, the elaborate ceiling and retaining features of Mullett's design, and in the Collector's office the gallery, ceiling, and trim, are of high historical importance.

Some sash, office partitions, synthetic flooring, lighting, signage, virtually all elements post-dating 1915, are of far less significance, and in fact, in many cases could be much improved.

### 3.2 EXTERIOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Clean and repoint the Young building as needed, using approved conservatorial treatment.
2. Repair and restore as feasible all drainage systems, and perform whatever other work is necessary to make the building watertight, taking into account the preservation factors (i.e., no exterior downspouts).
3. The cracking in the granite along the vertical axis of the corners of the Tower, linked to the visual evidence of water in those areas (seen during a hard rain), suggests that the cracks might be due to the expansion of the metal structural elements inside those walls as they rust. A scheme for careful investigation of a typical area might be advisable. (Clearly the building is not falling apart at the moment, but such conditions can lead to serious later problems.)
4. Clean and protect all exterior metals (BTA for copper and bronze, zinc-rich primer and appropriate paint for all other iron and steel).
5. Avoid alteration of size and location of openings, such as doors and windows, except on east side, street level, where alterations have already occurred. Open main door on west side.



6. Repoint and if necessary re-set granite steps on west.
7. Incorporate access for the handicapped as unobtrusively as possible, preferably using street level entries.
8. Site work: If possible, remove parking to areas outside a perimeter which delineates the original site. Perhaps incorporate some element of water on the east side to suggest the original siting at the head of a wharf.

### 3.3 INTERIOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Clean interior granite and marble in approved conservatorial manner. Consider light polishing of marble (not gleaming).
2. Restore 1915 lighting where possible and feasible.
3. Restore original paint finishes in major public spaces.
4. Conserve 1915 grained metal work where conservation is feasible and needed, at least in representative spaces, if not throughout.
5. Retain marble baseboard and window sills throughout.
6. Restore missing and crumbling plaster.
7. Clean dome area so as to restore sense of original inflow of light. Polish bronze in dome vents.
8. Elevator fronts and cabs could be rehabilitated, using Peabody & Stearns design for new materials.
9. Clean and restore all existing sash which are operable. (Inventory all sash.) Install any new elements such as storm sash from interior. Remove all window air conditioners.
10. Avoid installing any excrescences on exterior; keep all new systems work on interior or underground.

11. Perform work needed to render tower's top floors waterproof and usable. (Query: what about the falcon's nesting site on the 28th or 29th floor?)
12. Perhaps open part of sub-basement for viewing of Young's granite supporting columns and piers?



## SECTION 2

INVENTORY AND SURVEY OF HISTORICAL FABRIC  
AND EXISTING CONDITIONS IN INTERIOR SPACES





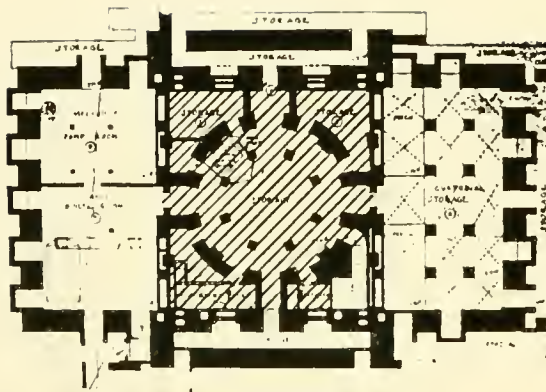
CHAPTER 4  
SUB-BASEMENT



SUB-BASEMENT; Rotunda

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SUB-BASEMENT  
Rotunda



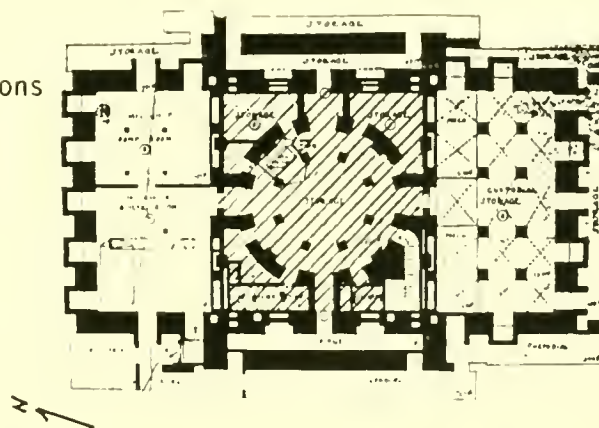
Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	concrete	1912			
Base-board	none				
Walls	1837 rough cut granite ashlar, reinforced with granite piers in 1912	1837, 1912	rough cut	Young's plan & SB-1-3 elevation, Nat. Archive, P&S #6	
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	plaster				
Windows	none				
Window Frames	iron sidewalk lights in ceiling at perimeter of sub-basement	1912			
Doors	metal				
Door Frames	metal				
Hardware	iron and steel				
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over flourescent strips	recent		P&S # 91, BPL	
Special Features	1837 granite piers built upward in brick in 1912 to receive steel floor of basement	1837, 1912	rough-cut granite	Young's plans & P&S 6, 91, 111, 112, BPL	SB-1-3

Remarks: Upper walls built of brick covered with plaster were added in 1912 when original brick vaults were removed and steel floor of basement laid. The center and south wing of t sub-basement are the only areas where Young's design has been left substantially unchanged. The sub-basement rotunda, Young's only circular space may have inspired Peabody and Stern's design of the basement rotunda.



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SUB-BASEMENT  
Rotunda



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	concrete	fair, painted at least 4 layers peeling [red, grey, lt. grey, present grey]	SB-1
Base-board	None		
Walls	granite & plaster	rough cut, painted, fair; 8 layers of paint including ivory, tan, green	SB-1,2
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster	very poor - calcimine peeling	SB-1
Windows	none		
Window Frames	iron frames of sidewalk lights	very rusted	
Doors	painted metal	only 2 left	
Door Frames	painted metal	good	
Hardware	iron and steel	fair - good	SB-1
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate	fair	
Square stone columns	granite	parged w/ 2-3 1/2" layers of concrete	

Remarks: joints in walls newly pointed w/ grey cement - too wide iron frame of central frosted oculus in ceiling is corroded.



SUB-BASEMENT; North Wing

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SUB-BASEMENT

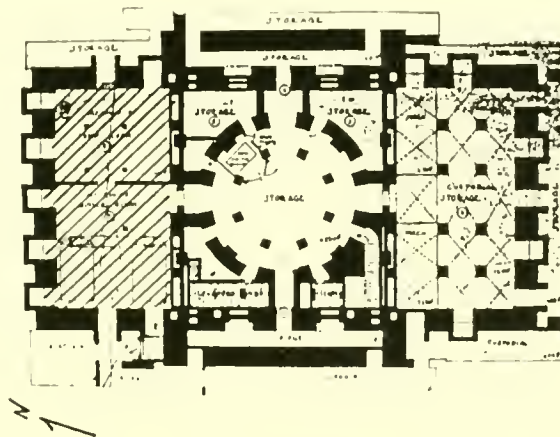
North Wing;

Boiler and Pump Room

NO ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY FOR THIS SPACE

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SUB-BASEMENT  
Rotunda  
Storage Room  
Boiler Room  
and Pump Room



Material/Description		Condition	Photo#
Base-board	none		
Walls	granite, brick, plaster	painted; fair - good	SB-3
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster	fair; peeling paint and skim coat	SB-7
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	none (?)		
Door Frames	metal	painted iron; OK	
Hardware			
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features			
Remarks			

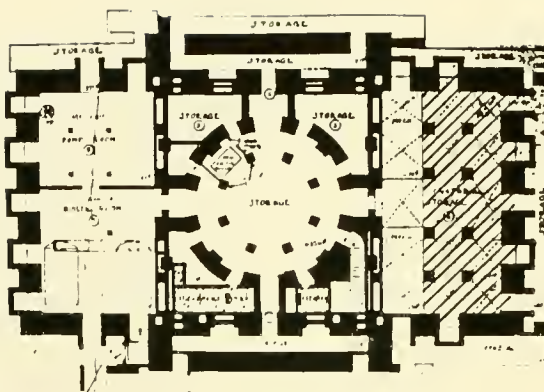




SUB-BASEMENT; South Wing

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

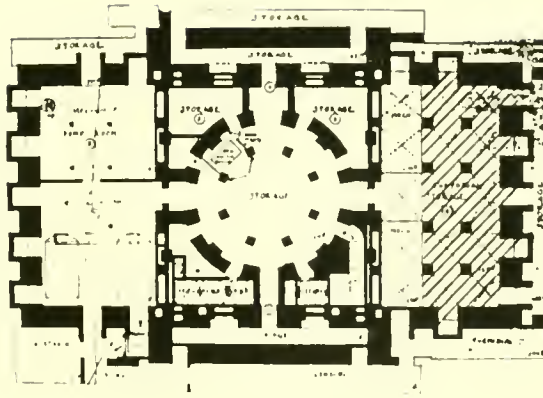
SUB-BASEMENT  
South Wing  
(Custodial Service)



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	concrete	1912			
Base-board	none				
Walls	granite, covered with plaster	1837; plaster?	rough-cut granite	P&S # 6, 91, 112, BPL, GSA	SB-7
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	brick vaults covered with plaster	1837; plaster?		P&S #6, 112, BPL, GSA	SB-4-7
Windows	sidewalk windows in ceiling	1912		P&S #91, BPL	
Window Frames	iron	1912			
Doors	none				
Door Frames	none				
Hardware	none				
Elect. Fixt.	flourescent strips.	recent			
Special Features	four 1837 square granite piers w/ projecting collars which support the springing of the original brick groin vaulting above.	1837		P&S #6, GSA	SB-4-7
Remarks:	This is the only space to survive intact from the building's original construction in 1837				

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SUB-BASEMENT  
South Wing;  
Custodial Storage



Material/Description		Condition	Photo#
Floor	concrete	poor; <u>standing water</u> in 90% of this area	SB-4
Base-board	none		
Walls	granite, brick	fair; painted and in places plastered	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster	fair; poor - Paint peeling	SB-5
Windows	none		
Window Frames	sidewalk light frames are iron	very rusted	
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	none		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		
Special Features			
Remarks			







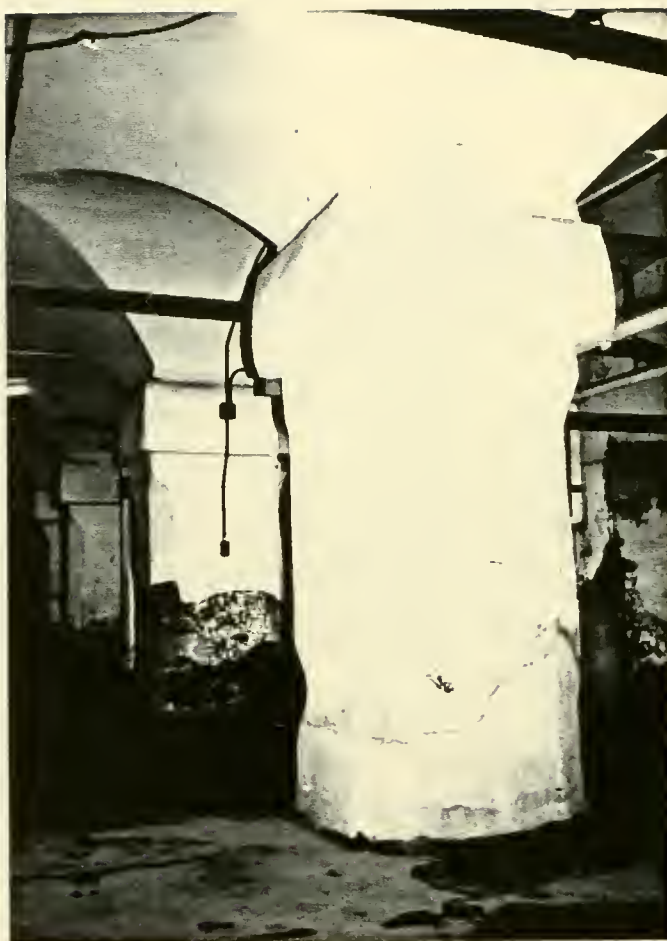
SB-1; Rotunda, looking west.



SB-2; New granite piers laid up against original granite walls of rotunda.



SB-3; Storage room, southeast of rotunda.  
Note 1837 rotunda wall (right) and 1912 wall  
containing tower substructure (left).



SB-4; 1837 granite piers and groin vaults, south wing.



SB-5; 1837 granite pier and vault springing, south wing.



SB-6; 1837 granite pier and vaulting, south wing.





SB-7; Exterior foundation, south room.



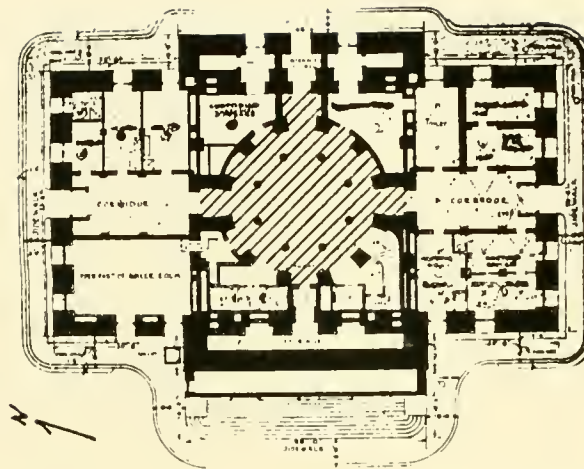
CHAPTER 5  
BASEMENT



BASEMENT; Rotunda

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

BASEMENT  
Rotunda



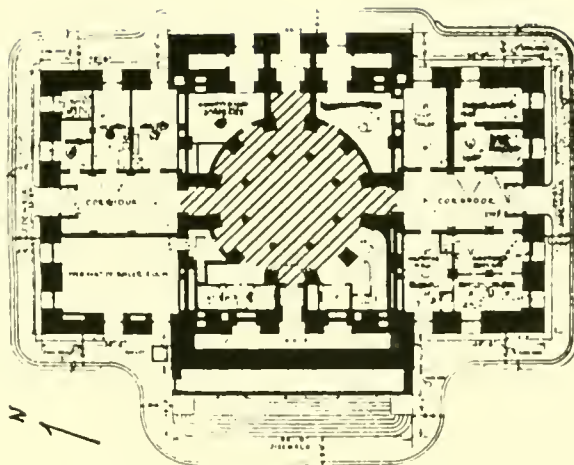
Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	white marble w/ grey veining, laid in radiating tiles w/ center star pattern	1912		P&S #92, 111, 112, BPL	B-1, 18
Base-board	none				
Walls	large granite ashlar blocks, varied in color in a more or less repeating pattern	1912	honed, unpolished	P&S #111, 112, BPL	B-2
Triniche	granite, ovolo molded	1912	honed, unpolished		B-15
Ceiling	flat plaster, center circular opening faced with marble	1912		P&S #111, 112, BPL	B-1, 18 1-4
Windows	none				
Window Frames	none				
Doors	oak with Roman grate pattern top lights	1950	"mahogany" stain, glossy finish	27 DE 10-15, 16, GSA, Boston	
Door Frames	oak panelled and molded, with transom lights	1950	"mahogany" stain, glossy finish		
Hardware	brass bars and kick plates	1950			
Elect. Fixt.	six frosted glass globes eight spotlights	ca. 1960			
Special Features	eight monolithic Greek Doric unfluted columns. Three fillet moldings encircle capital	1912	honed, unpolished	P&S #7, GSA, Boston	B-1

Remarks: SEE PAGE \_\_\_\_



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

BASEMENT  
Rotunda



Material/Description		Condition	Photo#
Floor	white marble	good, but somewhat soiled with all joints blackened	B-1 B-18
Base-board	none		
Walls	granite	irregularly soiled, joints generally sound, some bad reprinting	B-2
Cornice	granite	fine, a bit dusty	B-15
Ceiling	flat plaster under gallery	good	B-1, 18, 1-4
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	oak (N & S only)	minor cleaning and touch-up varnish	
Door Frames	oak (N & S only)	(same as above)	
Hardware	brass	fine, but polish has spread onto wood	
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features	granite columns	very soiled, especially at bases	B-1
Remarks: Signs have marred the granite walls in many areas; new grapevine joints not appropriate.			

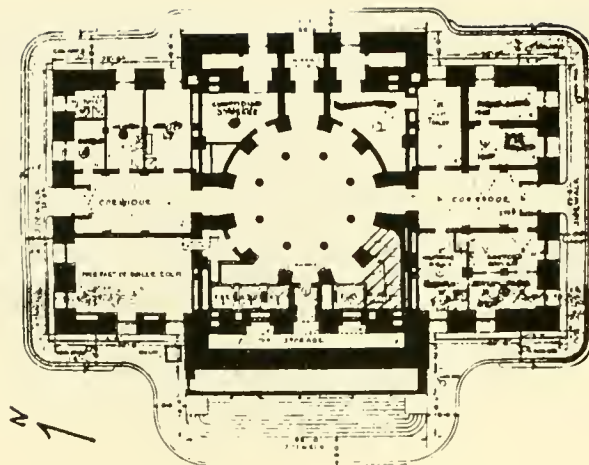
Remarks from BASEMENT, Rotunda:

No part in this room dates from the Young era. Although Peabody and Stearns sought to recreate the austere simplicity of Ammi Young's Greek Revival style, the design is completely theirs. Compare 1912 column in rotunda (photo B-3) with original column in south corridor (photo B-4). The sprinkler system installed in 1981 is particularly intrusive in the rotunda.

BASEMENT; Stairhall

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

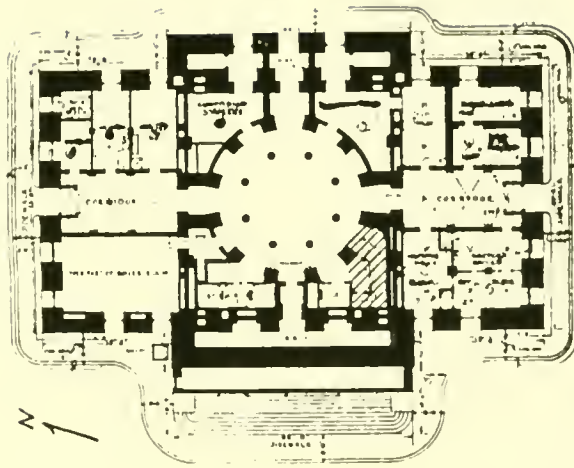
BASEMENT  
Stair hall



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble tile, marble treads	1912		P&S #92, 117, BPL	B-16
Base-board	none				
Walls	marble dado w/ molded marble dado cap; granite upper walls	1912		P&S #92, 117, BPL	
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	plaster, plain				
Windows	none				
Window Frames	none				
Doors	none				
Door Frames	none				
Hardware	none				
Elect. Fixt.	fosted glass cylinder	recent			
Special Features	stairs: metal construction; ornate metal balustrade; marble treads surfaced in 1950 with cement	1912, 1950		P&S #117, BPL, B-16, 17 27 DE10-15,GSA microf. Boston	
Remarks					

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

BASEMENT  
Stair hall



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble, granolithic	worn	B-17
Base-board	marble	soiled, slightly chipped	B-17
Walls	marble wainscot, granite above	very soiled, dulled by abrasive cleaning	B-17
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	flat plaster		
Windows	one, at turning of stair; Kalemeim	dirty	
Window Frames	Kalemeim		
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	brass	tarnished	
Elect. Fixt.	frosted glass		
Special Features			
Remarks:	Granolithic treads on stairs are dull, worn and unsightly. Balustrade is iron and was originally painted bronze, black, deep green.		





BASEMENT; Elevator Lobby

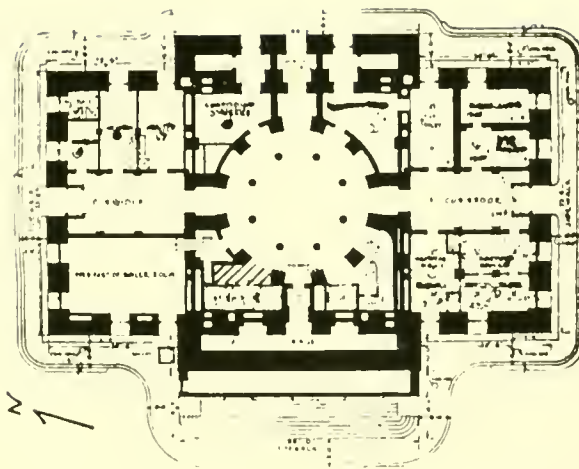
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21

Content	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	white/grey marble tile	1912		P & S #112,BPL	
Base-board	none				
Walls	plain grey green marble facing laid so that veining creates a chevron pattern	1912			
Cornice	grey green marble, ovolo molded	1912		P & S drawing GSA microf.Boston Boston	
Ceiling	plaster, plain	1912			
Windows	none				
Window Frames	none				
Doors	elevator doors: plain metal, painted brown*	1950			
Door Frames	elevator door frames: ornate metal panelled w/ Corinthian caps and eagle relief	1912			
Hardware	none				
Elect. Fixt.	bare bulb, frosted globe missing	c.1960			
Special Features	ornate brass cutler letter box	c.1912		P & S drawing GSA microf. Boston	
Remarks:	*For original design of elevator screens and surrounds, see P & S drawing #117, BPL				

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

BASEMENT  
Elevator Lobby



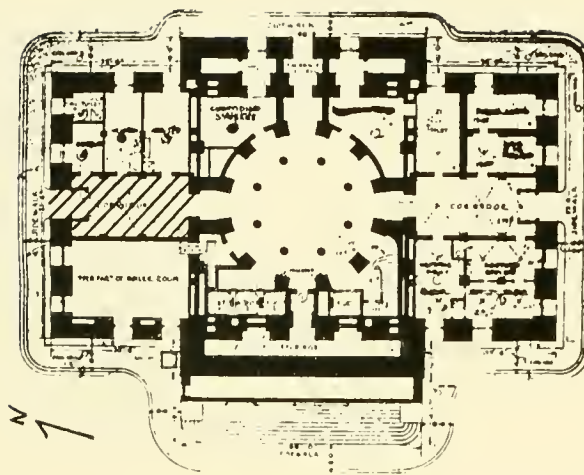
Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	white marble	soiled, blackened joints, heavily waxed	
Base-board	none		
Walls	grey marble	dulled by abrasive cleaning, dirty	
Cornice	grey marble	dull surface, dirty	
Ceiling	flat plaster	good	
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	elevator doors are flat metal	chipped paint	cf. 2-18
Door Frames	molded metal, decorative	present paint covers	cf. 2-18
Hardware			
Elect. Fixt.	missing globe		
Special Features	brass letter box and mail chute	well-polished, manufacturer's name plate needs to be re-attached	
Remarks			



BASEMENT; North Corridor

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

BASEMENT  
North Corridor



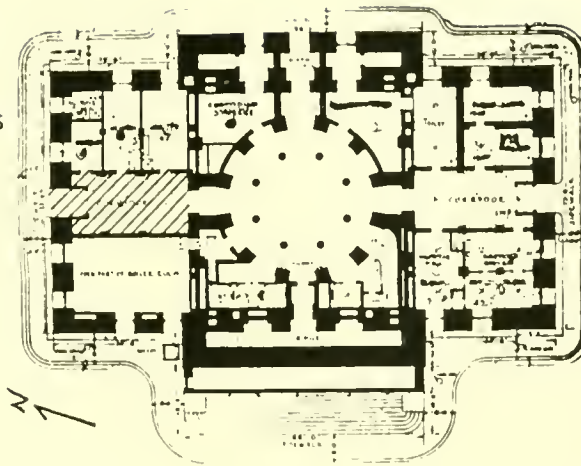
Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	white/grey marble tile	1912		P & S #92, BPL	see B5,
Base-board	none				
Walls	granite, smooth ashlar blocks	1912			see B5,
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	brick groin vaults, furred and plastered	1912		P & S #92	see B5,
Windows	none				
Window Frames	none				
Doors	1)exterior doors: oak;2)Int.doors: metal, simulating wood panelled doors	1950 1912	"mahogany" stain	27 DE10-15, GSA Microf. Boston	See B7 B8
Door Frames	1)wood, molded 2)metal, molded	1950 1912	"mahogany" stain	(see above)	
Hardware	1)simple brass pull bars 2) " " knobs & escutcheons	1950 1912			
Elect. Fixt.	frosted glass globes	c. 1960			
Special Features	engaged Greek Doric unfluted granite columns; granite corbels, E & W walls	1912		P & S #112, BPL	

Remarks: The 1837 vaulting of the north corridor was of a different design. The current gro vaults and granite columns were installed in 1912 by Peabody and Stearns to match the original 1837 vaults and columns which survive in the south corridor.



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

BASEMENT  
North Corridor



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble	dirty, joints blackened, holes by rotunda door	B-5, 6
Base-board	none		
Walls	granite	general dirt, plus blackened wax at base	B-5, 6
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster, vaulted	minor cracks and paint peeling	B-5, 6
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	exterior; oak interior; grained metal	exterior: caked brass polish around hardware, crazed finish	B-7, 8
Door Frames	exterior; oak interior; grained metal	need some cleaning and refinishing	
Hardware	brass	fine; some is tarnished	
Elect. Fixt.	frosted spheres	good	
Special Features			
Remarks			



BASEMENT; Northeast Rooms

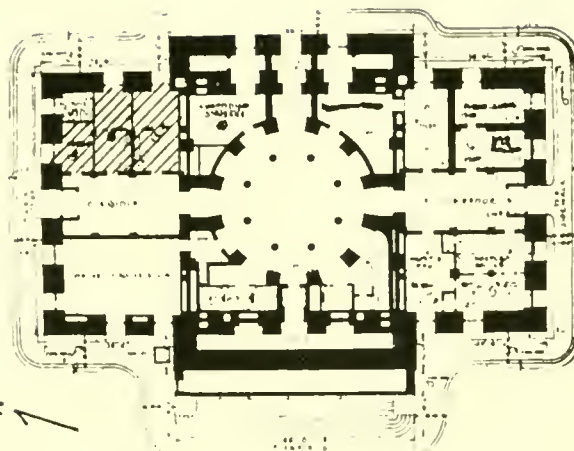
Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

BASEMENT  
Northeast Rooms

NO ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY FOR THIS SPACE

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

BASEMENT  
Northeast Rooms  
(Custodian  
Women's Room  
Snack Bar)



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	granolithic	worn, soiled	
Base-board	marble	dirty, scratched, chipped	
Walls	marble, wainscot, flat plaster	soiled, scratched, painted (8-10 layers)	
Cornice	none - only picture rail	fine	
Ceiling	flat plaster	some cracks, minor peeling paint	
Windows	Kalamein	good - some dents, dirty	
Window Frames	grained metal	need some cleaning and paint touch-up	
Doors	grained metal	(same as above)	
Door Frames	grained metal	(same as above)	
Hardware	brass	tarnished	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		
Special Features	SW corner of Women's room retains two rose marble panels on wall		
Remarks:	Granolithic floors should be kept.		



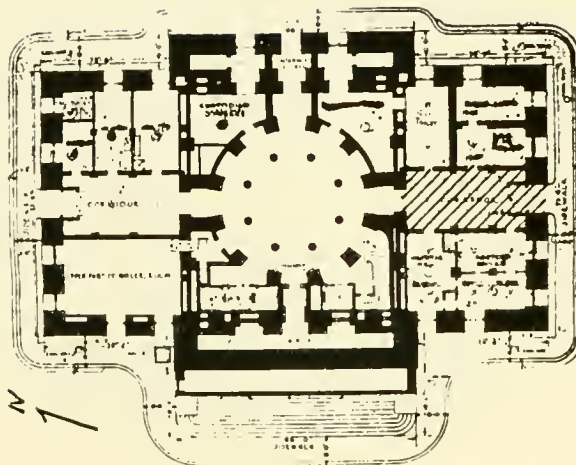


BASEMENT; South Corridor

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Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

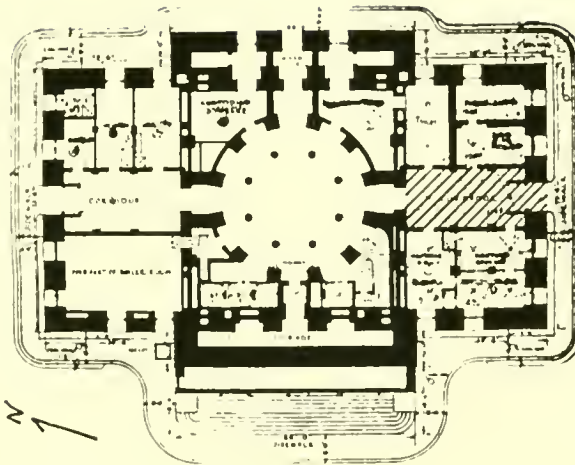
BASEMENT  
South Corridor



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble tile	1912		P&S #7, GSA; #92, BPL	B-5
Base-board	none				
Walls	granite ashlar; N.E. & W walls: Peabody & Stearns: S wall: Young	1837/ 1912	honed, unpolished	P&S #92, 112, BPL	
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	Young's brick groined vaults furred & plastered by Peabody & Stearns	1837/ 1912			
Windows	none				
Window Frames	none				
Doors	N & S doors: oak with Roman grate pattern lights: E & W doors: metal over wood	1950  1912	"mahogany" stain "mahog."grain	#27DE 10-15,16 Nat. Archives Shop drawings BPL	B-6 B-8
Door Frames	N & S frames: oak, molded E & W frames: metal, molded		"mahog."stain "mahog. grain		B-6 B-8
Hardware	simple brass bars: N & S doors; brass knobs and plain escutcheons: E & W doors	1950 1912			B-6 B-8
Elect. Fixt.	frosted glass spheres	1960?			B-5
Special Features	four unfluted Greek Doric granite columns and four granite corbels at arch springings	1837	honed, unpolished		
Remarks: The four original 1837 columns are now half-engaged in the granite-faced brick E & walls installed in 1912. Old and new granite are skillfully blended. The granite corbels of the N wall are 1912 copies of Young's originals on the S wall.					

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

BASEMENT  
South Corridor



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble	highly waxed, joints dark, some chipped edges	B-5, 6
Base-board	none		
Walls	granite	dirty, floor wax on lower edges	B-5, 6
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	vaulted plaster	some cracks, peeling paint; ivory, cream, pale grey paints	B-5, 6
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	exterior: oak interior: grained metal	exterior needs refinishing, interior some chipped and crazed areas, some dirt	B-6, 7, 8
Door Frames	same as above		
Hardware	exterior: brass interior: brass	highly polished tarnished	B-6, 7, 8
Elec. Fixt.	frosted glass globes		B-5, 6
Special Features			

Remarks: Sprinkler system unsightly.



BASEMENT; Southwest Rooms

1

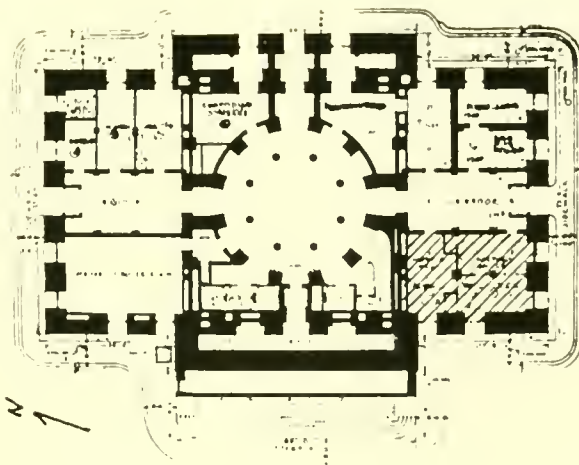
21

Remarks: SEE PAGE



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

BASEMENT  
Southwest Rooms



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet over linoleum over granolithic (?)	fair	B-11, 12
Base- board	flat marble with black linoleum	some chips	
Walls	outer walls - granite; inner walls - plaster and metal	severe plaster and paint problems on south and west walls	B-11, 12
Cornice	picture rail	good	
Ceiling	plaster	water damage in large area, SW corner	B-11, 12
Windows	Kalamein	some corrosion, dirt	
Window Frames	grained metal	crazed and chipped in a few areas	
Doors	grained metal	(same as above)	
Door Frames	grained metal	(same as above)	B-8
Hardware	brass	tarnished	B-8
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features	Small toilet room in NE corner of marble and porcelain	perfect shape	B-13
Remarks			

Remarks for BASEMENT, Southwest Rooms

- \* The 1914 shop drawings for virtually all metal doors, door frames, chair rails, interior partitions and stairs by the Monarch Metal Manufacturing Company, Kansas City, MO are in the Boston Public Library, Peabody and Stearns Collection. Hereafter, the drawings will not be cited for individual elements.

## BASEMENT; Southeast Rooms

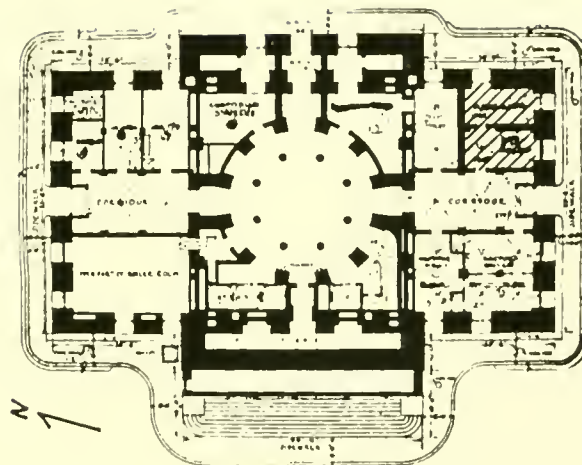
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21

Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	carpet	recent	granolithic	P&S #92, BPL	
Base-board	marble	1912			
Walls	exterior: original granite, painted interior: plaster	1837 1912	honed, polished	P&S #92, BPL	
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	1837 brick vaults firred and plastered in 1912	1837/ 1912		P&S #92, BPL	
Windows	Kalamein	1912			
Window Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Doors	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Door Frames	metal, simulating wooden panelled doors	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Hardware	simple brass grid over flourescent strips	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over flourescent strips	recent			
Special Features	original granite corbels at springing of brick groin vaults survive on exterior walls	1837	honed, unpolished		B-14
Remarks					

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

BASEMENT  
Southeast Rooms



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet over linoleum (over granolithic ?)	poor	B-11, 12
Base-board	flat marble	covered with black linoleum	
Walls	outside wall granite inside walls plaster	granite - 15-17 layers* plaster has mustardy tan as first paint (10 layers)	B-11, 12
Cornice	picture rail only	good	
Ceiling	vaulted plaster	some peeling skim coat on S wall	
Windows	Kalamein	fari, some dirt	
Window Frames	grained metal	some dirt, chips	
Doors	grained metal	should be cleaned and re-varnished	
Door Frames	grained metal	(same as above)	
Hardware	brass	tarnished	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		
Special Features	transom lights of crinkle glass (one missing)		

Remarks: \* granite, soft rosy grey, light stone grey, ivory, light lavender grey, dull stone grey, pearl grey, mustardy tan, light yellow tan, pinkish ivory, two turquoise, light olive green, present cream (2).



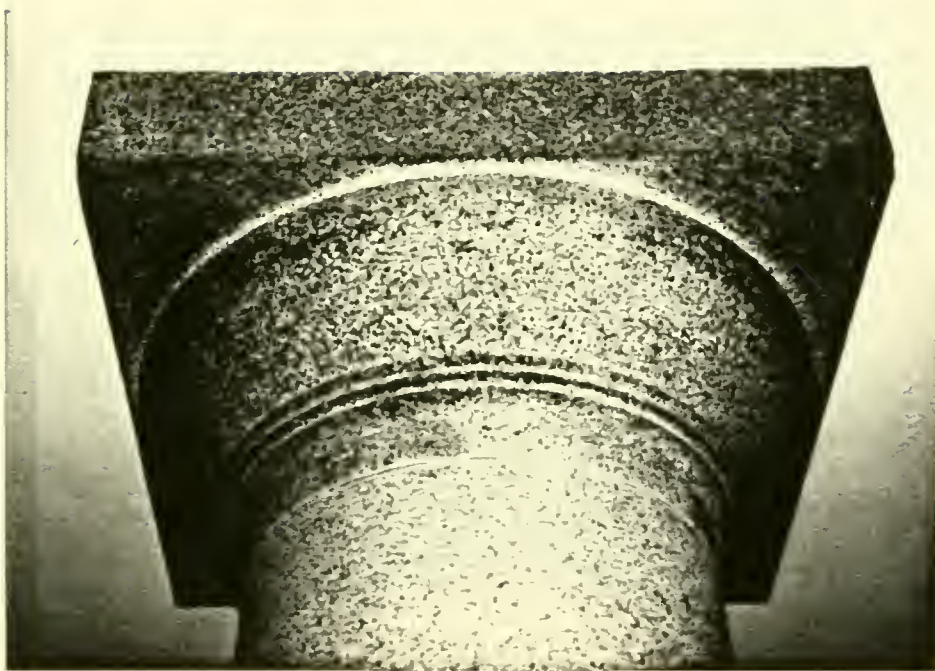




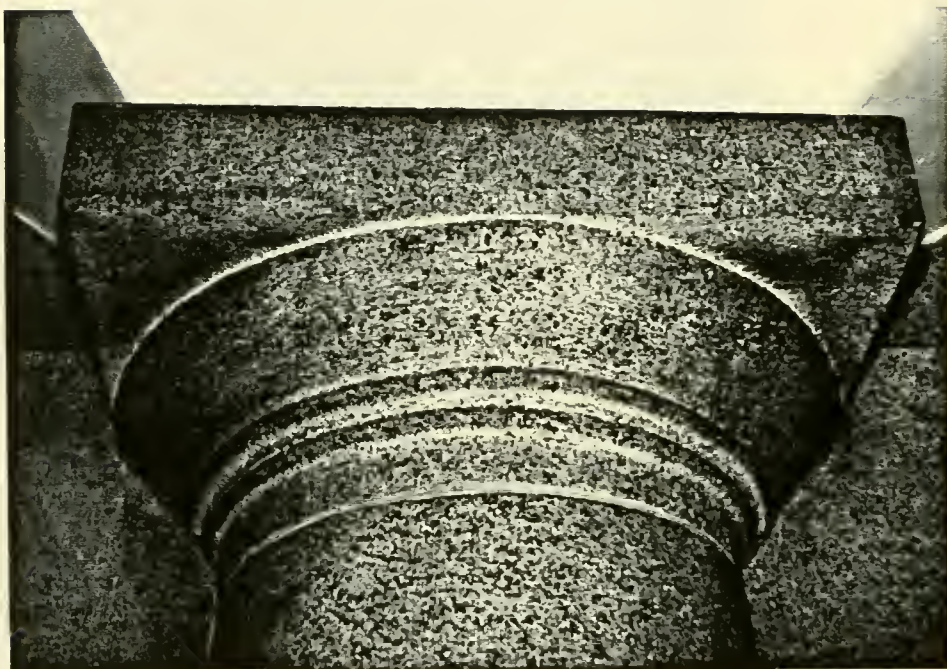
B-1; Rotunda.



B-2; Rotunda, northeast wall.



B-3; Rotunda, detail of column.



B-4; South corridor, detail of column.





B-5; South corridor, looking north.



B-6; South corridor, looking south.

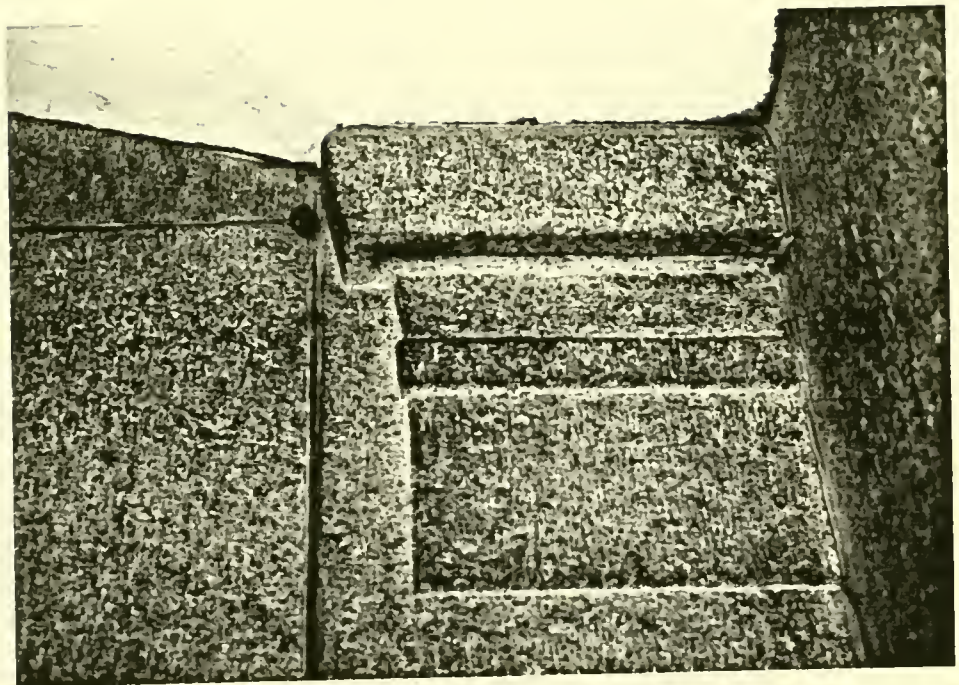




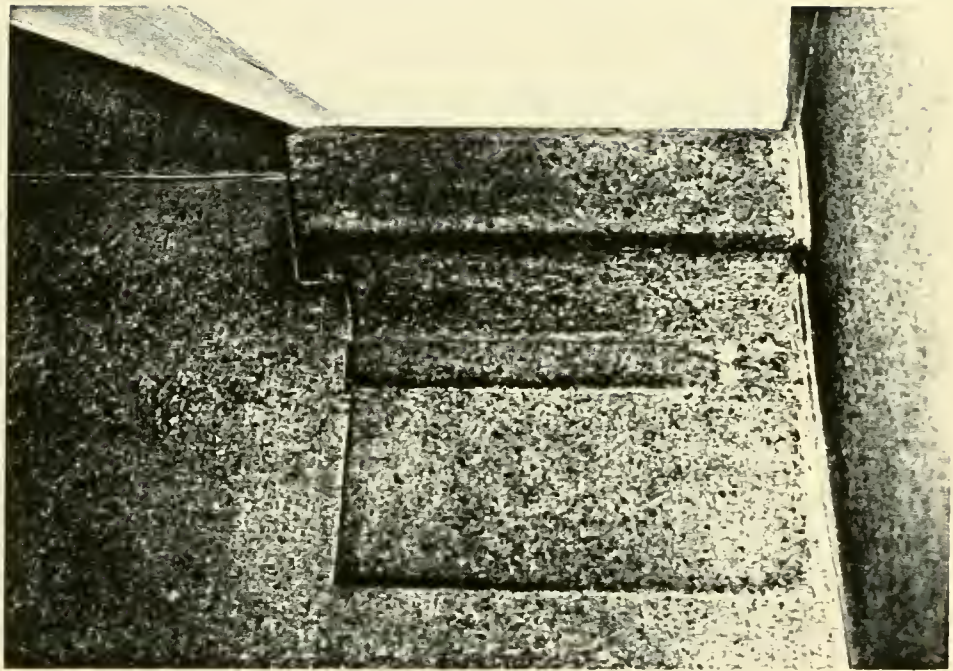
B-7; Entry doors, south corridor.



B-8; Door to southwest offices, south corridor.



B-9; 1837 corbel, south corridor.



B-10; 1912 corbel, north corridor.





B-11; Southwest office suite, looking south.

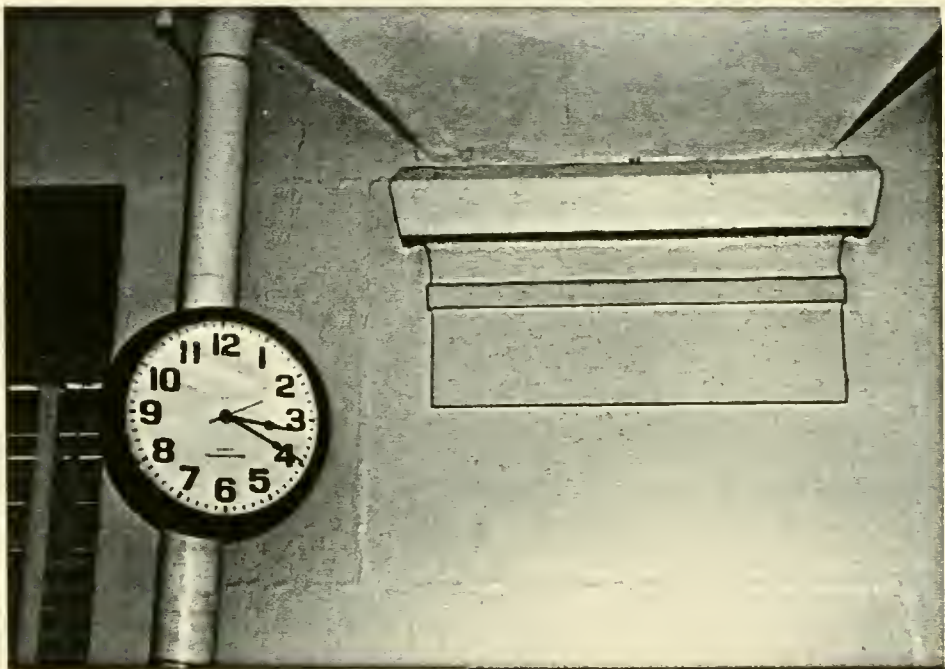


B-12; Southwest office suite, looking north.





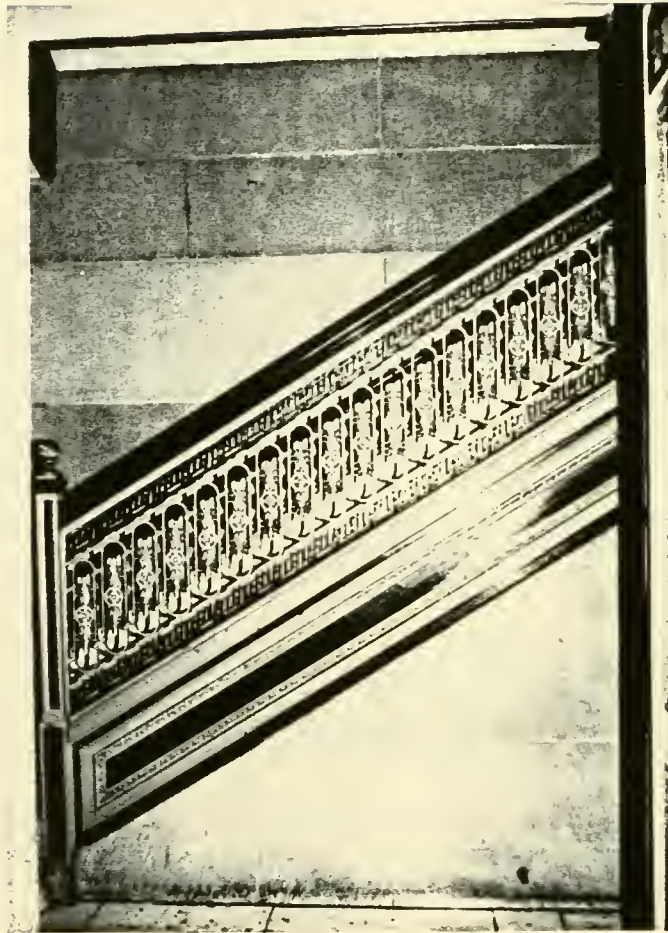
B-13; Lavatory with 1912 marble wainscoting and  
granolithic floor, southwest office suite.



B-14; 1837 corbel, southeast office suite.



B-15; Detail, granite wall of rotunda adjacent to stairs.



B-16; Stair balustrade.



B-17; Stairs.





B-18; Floor of rotunda.



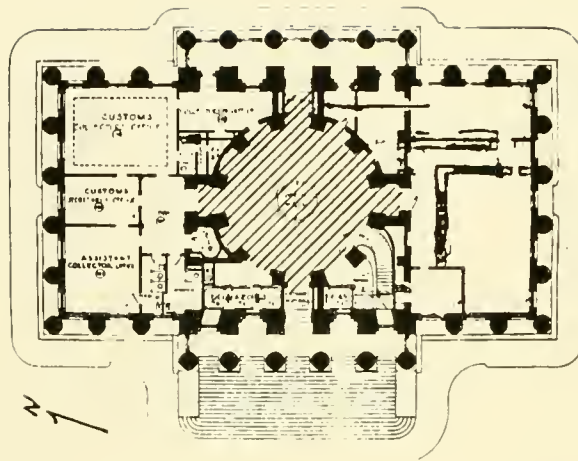
CHAPTER 6  
FIRST FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR; Rotunda

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

FIRST FLOOR  
Rotunda

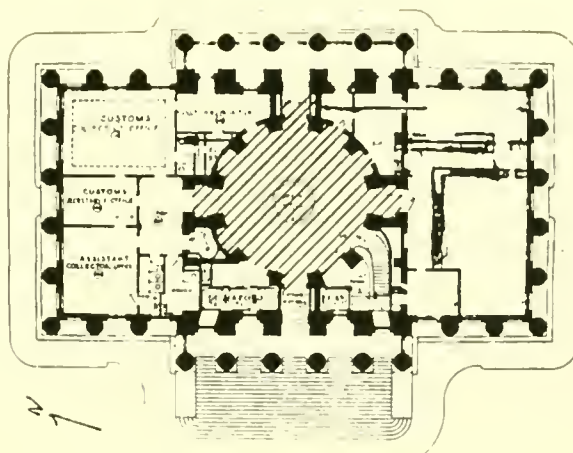


Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	white marble tile	1912	possibly polished	P&S #92, BPL	
Base-board	none				
Walls	white marble	1912	probably polished	P&S #111, 112, BPL	
Cornice	marble, molded	1912			
Ceiling	plaster	1912			
Windows	none				
Window Frames	none				
Doors	1)west entrance door: bronze w/ decorative designs in relief 2)East entrance: bronze with spindle pattern *	1912	inter. doors: "mahogany" grained	P&S #410, GSA P&S #453, GSA	1-1
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	frosted glass globes	c. 1960			
Special Features	marble balustrade at center opening with Roman grate **	1912			1-1, 2, 3, 4

Remarks: FOR ASTERICKED SECTIONS ABOVE, SEE PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIRST FLOOR  
Rotunda



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble	some minor chips and scars, joints all blackened, well waxed, fairly clean	
Base-board	none		
Walls	marble	some staining - seems to have been abraded and coated (drips & streaks)	
Cornice	marble	good, dusty, some stains	
Ceiling	flat plaster	(under gallery only) - very good	
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	grained metal (glazed grille design N, W, E, S)	some minor cleaning & touching up needed - paint crazed and chipped	1-2, 3
Door Frames	marble, grained metal	good	1-5
Hardware	brass	good, but dull	
Elect. Fixt.	frosted spheres		
Special Features	marble gallery balustrade	scratched, abraded	1-1, 4
Remarks			

(CONTINUATION FROM INVENTORY OF ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS FOR FIRST FLOOR ROTUNDA)

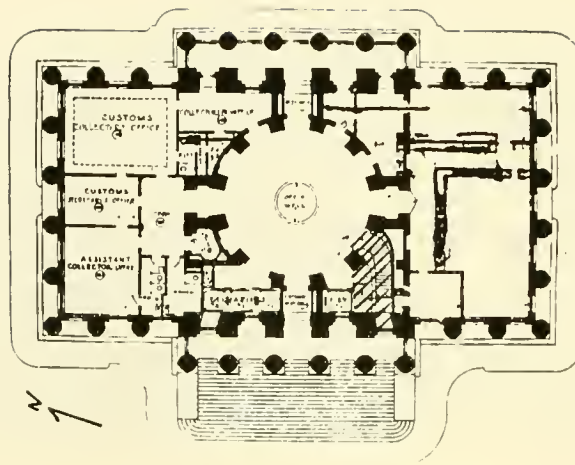
- \* 3) N & S axial doors: metal with Roman grate pattern lights and metal transom grid with Greek key design.
- 4) Subsidiary doors: metal
- \*\* open work alternating with plain panels (photo 1-1). Simple rectangular niches in walls house marble architraves and cornices, some for doors, some blind and fitted with radiators. (photo; 1-1, 1-5).



FIRST FLOOR; Stairhall

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

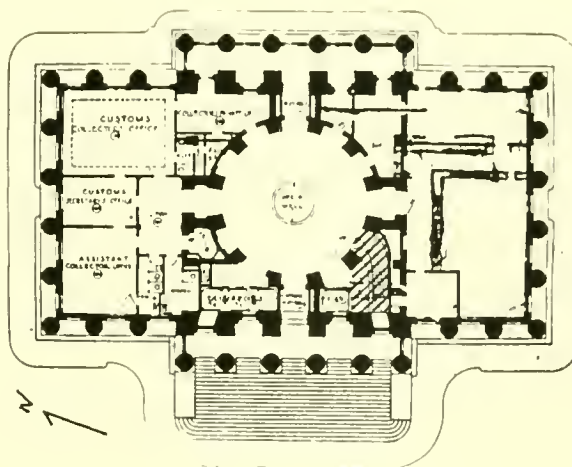
FIRST FLOOR  
Stair Hall



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble tile	1912		P&S #93, 117, BPL	1-7, 8
Base-board	marble, molded	1912			
Walls	marble w/ gracefully curved dado	1912			
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	N/A				
Windows	Kalamein	1912			
Window Frames	metal; deep reveals and sill faced with marble	1912			
Doors	none				
Door Frames	none				
Hardware	none				
Elect. Fixt.	none				
Special Features	elaborate curved metal stair balustrade	1912		P&S # 117, BPL	117, 1-7, 8
Remarks:	Original metal grate with Greek key border which covers elevator well window opposite the stairs survives (photo 1-8).				

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIRST FLOOR  
Stair hall



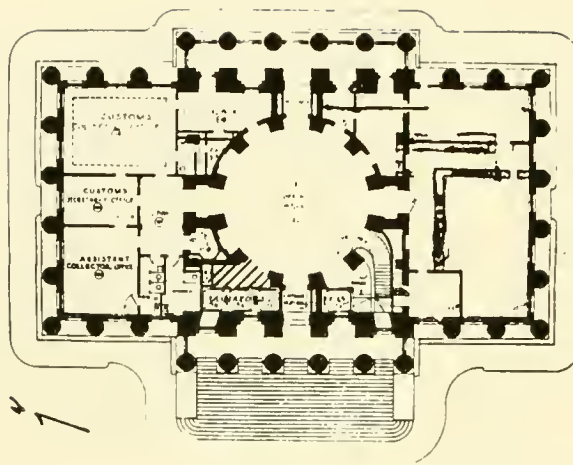
Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	treads are marble with granolithic over	worn, dirty	1-6, 7
Base-board	marble, flat, part of wainscot	scoured, dirty	1-6, 7
Walls	marble	scoured, some dirt and streaks	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster	fine	
Windows	one Kalamein at turning of stair	dirty	
Window Frames	marble	dusty, rough	
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	iron balustrade	repainted at least 3 times	1-6, 7
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features	grille over window into elevator well	originally iron, painted pearl grey over red primer	1-8
Remarks			



FIRST FLOOR; Elevator Lobby

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

FIRST FLOOR  
Elevator Hall

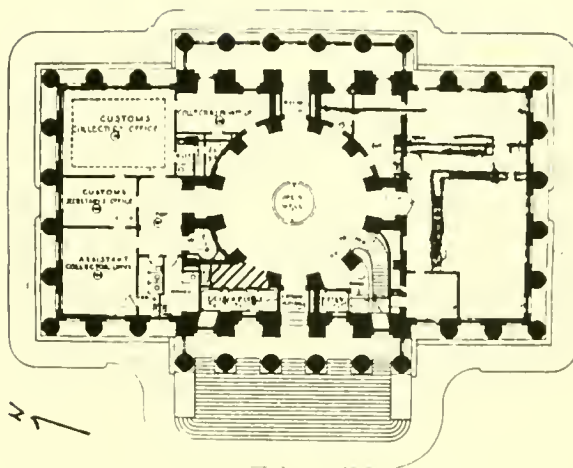


Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble tile	1912		P&S #117, BPL	
Base-board	none				
Walls	marble		probably polished		
Cornice	marble, molded			P&S, GSA microfilm, Boston	
Ceiling	plaster, flat				
Windows	none				
Window Frames	none				
Doors	plain metal sliding doors	1950			
Door Frames	elaborate metal with panels, Corinthian pilasters and eagle reliefs			P&S #117, BPL	
Hardware	none				
Elect. Fixt.	small frosted glass cylinder	recent			
Special Features					
Remarks					



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIRST FLOOR  
Elevator Lobby



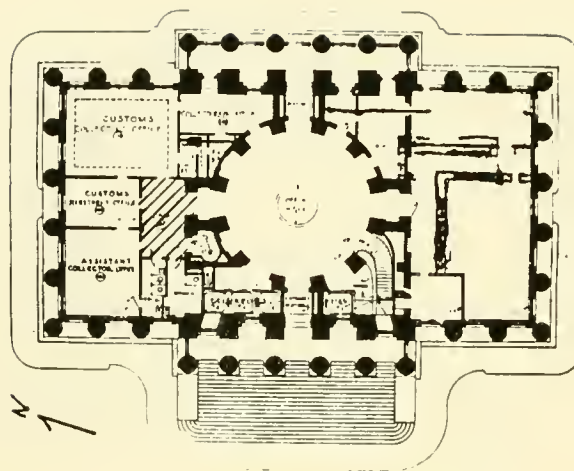
Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble	well-waxed, but some chips and blackened joints	
Base-board	none		
Walls	marble	dull surface, minor dirt	
Cornice	marble	dusty	
Ceiling	flat plaster	fine	
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	elevator doors are flat metal	chipped paint	
Door Frames	decorative metal	re-painted at least 4 times	
Hardware	none		
Elect. Fixt.	frosted sphere		
Special Features			
Remarks			



FIRST FLOOR; North Wing Lobby

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

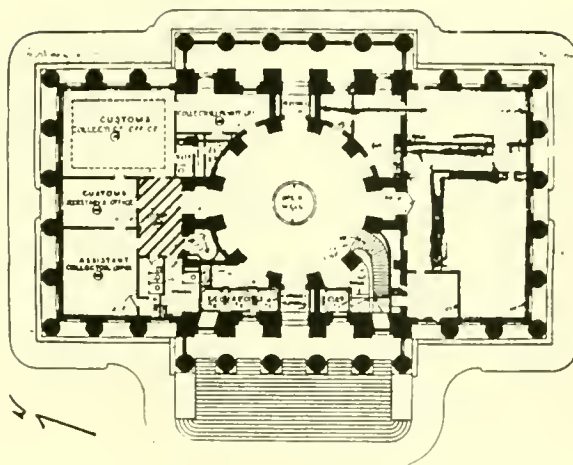
FIRST FLOOR  
North Wing; Lobby



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble tile	1912		P&S #93, BPL	1-9
base-board	marble, molded	1912			1-9
Walls	marble, with molded chair rail	1912	polished		1-9
ornice	marble molded; plaster, molded	1912			1-9
Ceiling	plaster, coffered	1912			1-9
Windows	none				
Window Frames	none				
Doors	entry: metal with Roman grate lgts; 1912 metal simulating wooden panelling, some with frosted glass lights	1912	"mahogany"	grained	1-2
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany"	grained	
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	hanging bell-shaped frosted glass fixture	recent			
Special Features					
Remarks:	Structural piers which project from the south wall are finished like pilasters.				

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIRST FLOOR  
North Wing Lobby



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble	good	1-9
Base-board	marble	some chips and scratches	1-9
Walls	marble	well polished and clean above wainscot, 1-9 scoured below	
Cornice	plaster	good	1-9
Ceiling	molded plaster panels	good	1-9
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	grained metal	good - minor touch-up needed	1-9
Door Frames	grained metal	(same as above)	1-9
Hardware	brass	dull	
Elect. Fixt.	hanging frosted glass	good	1-9
Special Features			

Remarks: A small winding "secret stair" connects this lobby with the office above. It has metal stairs, marble baseboard, granolithic floor, and a warm soft grey paint originally on its plaster walls. No water damage at all.

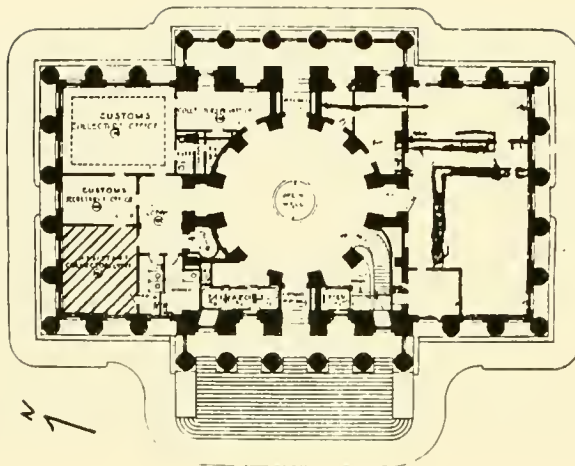




FIRST FLOOR; Assistant Collector's Office

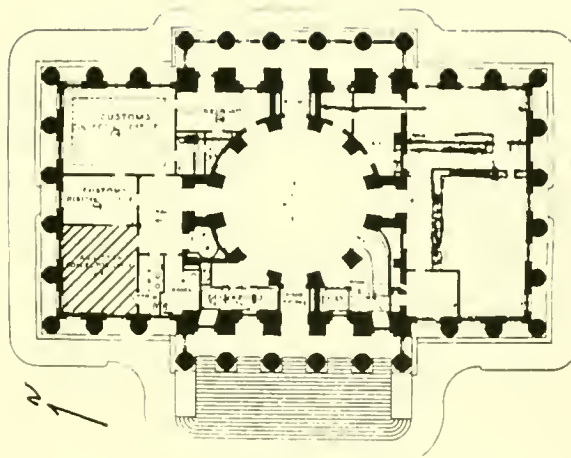
Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

FIRST FLOOR  
Assistant  
Collector's  
Office



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	carpet	recent		P&S #93, BPL	
base-board	marble, plain	1912			
Walls	marble dado with plain cap; plaster upper walls	1912			
Cornice	plaster, with pronounced moldings	1912			
Ceiling	plaster, coffered	1912			
Windows	metal	1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	
Window Frames	plain marble reveals, surrounds and sills	1912			1-21
Doors	metal, simulating wooden panelled doors	1912	"mahogany" grained	.	
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Hardware	plain brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	two Colonial Revival chandeliers	recent			1-21
Special Features	lavatory off this room retains original tan marble wainscotting and terrazzo floor	1912		P&S #93, BPL	

FIRST FLOOR  
Assistant  
Collector's  
Office



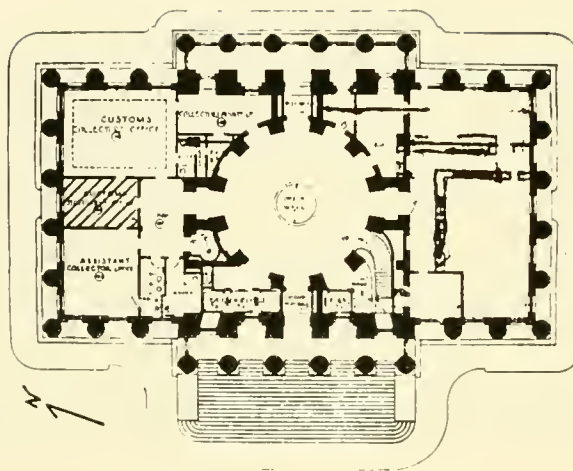
Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet over ?	good	
Base-board	flat marble	minor scratches	
Walls	marble wainscot, plaster above	minor scratches, good	1-21
Cornice	plaster	good	1-21
Ceiling	plaster	good	1-21
Windows	steel, factory sash	poor, rusted	1-21
Window Frames	flat marble	good	
Doors	grained metal	good	
Door Frames	grained metal	minor touch-up needed	
Hardware	brass	dull	
Elect. Fixt.	brass "Williamsurg" type	good	
Special Features	Small toilet off this room w/ rose marble stalls and marble floor boarder, new tile floor		
Remarks			



FIRST FLOOR; Customs Secretary's Office

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

FIRST FLOOR  
Customs  
Secretary's  
Office



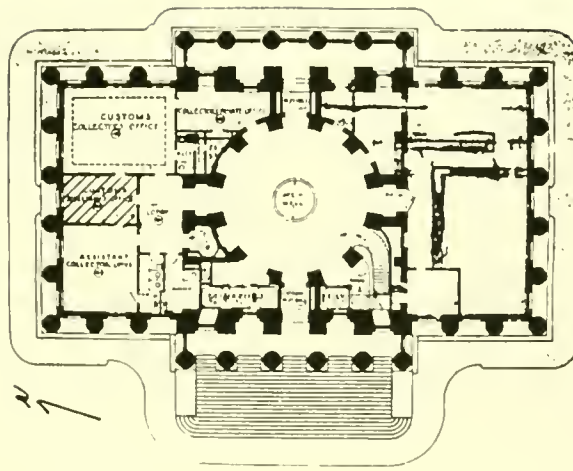
Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	carpet	recent		P&S #93, 112 BPL	1-10
Base-board	marble, plain	1912			1-10
Walls	marble dado with plain cap; plaster upper walls	1912			1-10
Cornice	plaster, with pronounced moldings	1912			1-10
Ceiling	plaster, flat	1912			1-10
Windows	metal	1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	1-10
Window Frames	plain marble frames, sills and reveals	1912			
Doors	metal, simulating wooden panelled door	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Hardware	plain brass knobs and escutcheons				
Elect. Fixt.	hanging, bell-shaped, frosted glass fixture	recent			1-10
Special Features					
Remarks					



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIRST FLOOR

Customs  
Secretary's  
Office



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet over ?	good	1-10
Base-board	marble	good	1-10
Walls	marble wainscot, plaster	some minor dirt, abrasion	1-10
Cornice	plaster	good	1-10
Ceiling	flat plaster	good	1-10
Windows	steel factory sash	poor, rusted	1-10
Window Frames	flat marble	good - some minor dirt	1-10
Doors	grained metal	good	
Door Frames	grained metal	good	
Hardware	brass	dull	
Elect. Fixt.	c. 1940 hanging frosted glass	good	
Special Features			
Remarks			



FIRST FLOOR; North Wing: Director's Office

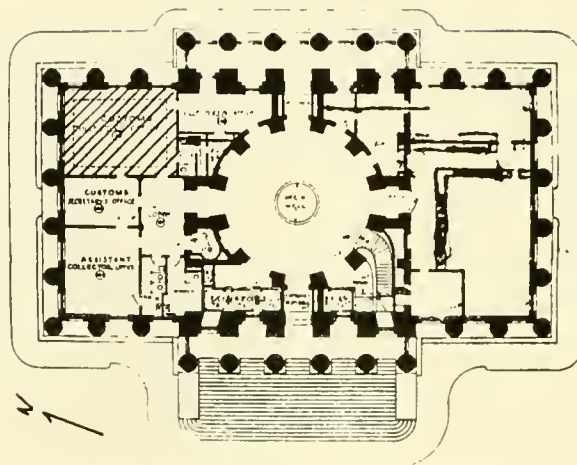
Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

FIRST FLOOR

Director's

Office

(1912: Collector's  
Office)

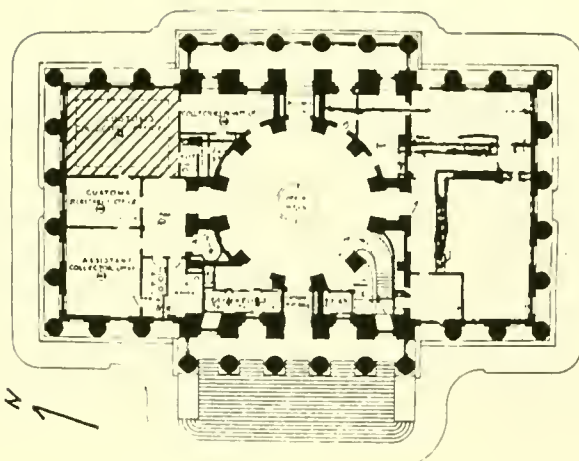


Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble tile covered with carpet	1912/ recent		P&S #93, 112, BPL	
Base-board	marble, molded	1912		P&S #93, 112 BPL	
Walls	marble dado; molded marble chair rail; plaster upper walls with panel molding	1912 & ?*	marble, polished		1-11-19
Cornice	1st level: molded plaster shaped to cove below gallery; 2nd level: elab. plaster with rinceau frieze	1912		P&S #112, BPL	1-11-19
Ceiling	plaster, coved			P&S 112, BPL	1-18
Windows	metal	1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	1-11, 13 1-15-18
Window Frames	marble; 1st level: plain reveals & frames; 2nd level: molded window heads, plain reveals & jambs	1912 & ?*			1-11, 13 1-15-18
Doors	metal, simulating wooden panelling	1912			1-12
Door Frames	marble, plain	1912			1-12
Hardware	plain brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	elaborate metal chandelier, decorated w/ acanthus leaf motifs, etc.; recently refinished	c. 1915		unknown	1-13, 14
Special Features	metal balcony with Roman grate pattern balustrade and Greek wave frieze				1-11, 13 15, 17,

Remarks: (SEE PAGE \_\_\_\_)

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIRST FLOOR  
Director's  
Office



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble, carpeted over marble ?	slightly dirty, scarred	1-11
Base-board	marble	slightly dirty & scarred	1-11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18
Walls	marble, wainscot, moulded plaster above		
Cornice	moulded plaster	fine, except East wall	1-11, 13, 15, 16, 18
Ceiling	vaulted plaster	fine, <u>except</u> East wall	1-18
Windows	steel frame sash	rusted on exterior	1-11
Window Frames	marble	need cleaning	1-11, 16, 17
Doors	grained metal	good	1-12
Door Frames	grained metal	good	1-12
Hardware	brass	dull	
Elect. Fixt.	painted metal	good	1-13, 14
Special Features			
Remarks:	Director's Private Office is simple and in very good condition (see photo 1-20).		

Remarks for FIRST FLOOR, Director's Office;

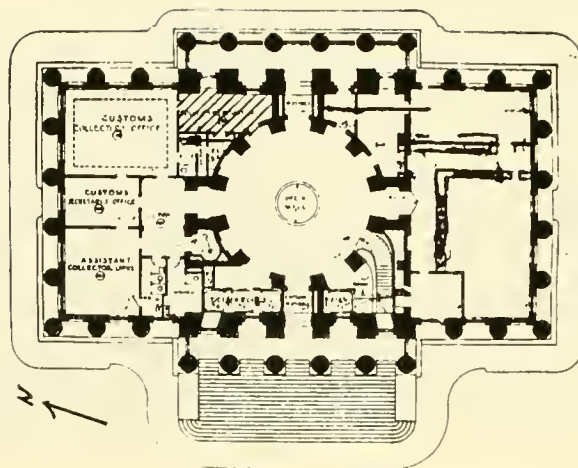
- \* The marble window surrounds and dado (Fig. 1-19) on the second level have different molding profiles and are of a darker marble than those on the first level. Possibly these survive from Mullett (1874) or even the Young era, but it is impossible to be certain without further documentary or physical evidence. The Director's Office is, other than the Rotunda, the only surviving multi-story space in the Custom House. The similarly finished space Peabody and Sterns designed for the South wing (plan #112) was divided horizontally in 1923 (plan # SA 151).



FIRST FLOOR; Director's Private Office

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

FIRST FLOOR  
Director's  
Private  
Office



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	carpet	recent	unknown	P&S #93	
Base-board	marble, molded covered with black linoleum	1912			
Walls	plaster, molded metal chair rail	1912	rail: "mahogany" graining		1-20
cornice	plaster with pronounced moldings	1912			1-20
Ceiling	plaster, flat	1912			1-20
Windows	Kalamein	1912			
Window Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Doors	metal, simulating wooden panelling	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over florescent stirps	recent			
Special Features					
Remarks					

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIRST FLOOR  
Director's  
Private  
Office

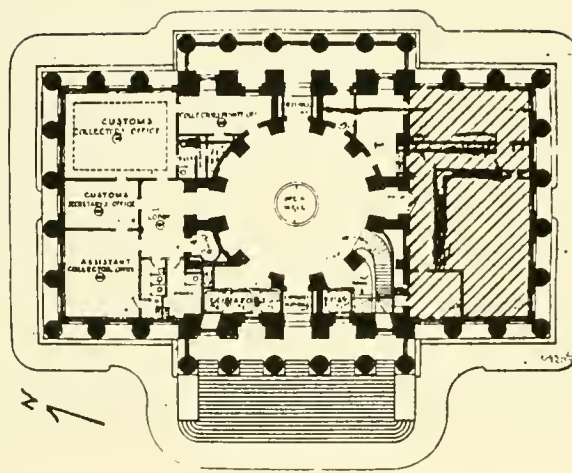
NO INVENTORY OF EXISTING CONDITIONS  
FOR THIS SPACE



FIRST FLOOR; South Wing: Import Control Officer's Room

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

FIRST FLOOR  
South Wing:  
Import  
Control  
Office



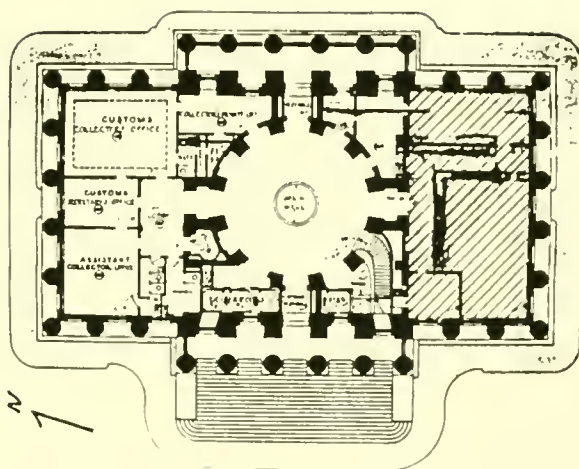
Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble in public area; carpet tile in raised office space	1912/ recent		P&S #93, 112 BPL	
Base- board	marble, molded	1912			
Walls	marble dado; molded dado cap; plaster upper walls with panel moldings	1912			
Trimmings	plaster, with pronounced moldings	1912			1-2-3
Ceiling	plaster, coffered	1912			
Windows	metal	1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	1-22, 23
Window Frames	plain marble frames, sills and reveals				1-22, 23
Doors	Entry: metal with Roman grate pattern lights. Interior: metal simulating wooden panelling	1912	"mahogany" grained		1-2
Door Frames	metal frames; surrounds plain marble	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid, over fluorescent strips	recent			
Special Features	original metal partition with marble frame and frosted glass lights, Northeast corner	1912			1-24

Remarks: The room retains original counters faced with marble (photo 1-22) adjacent to public space.



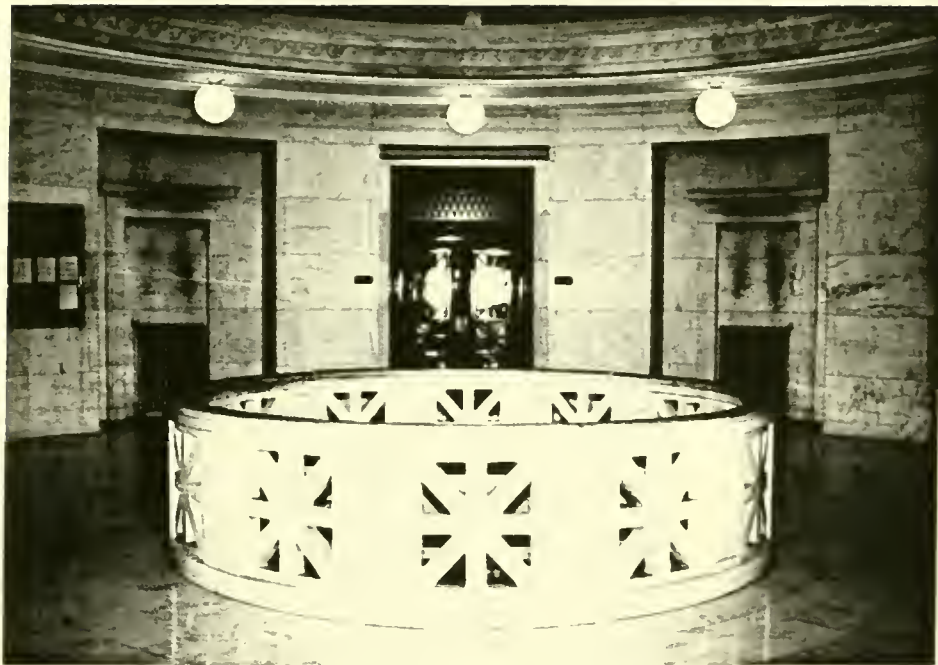
Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIRST FLOOR  
South Wing

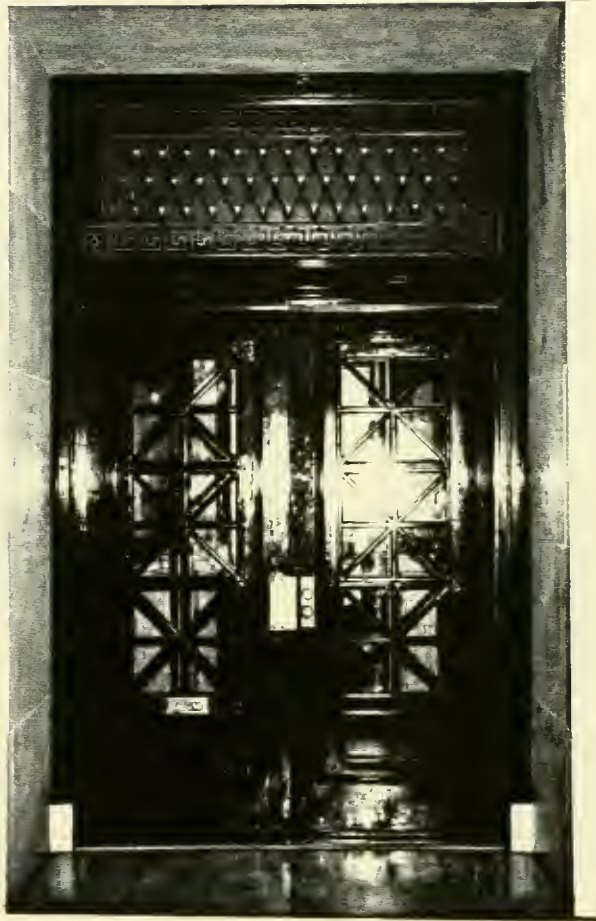


Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble, carpet over in W	good	1-22
Base-board	marble	dirty, scratched	
Walls	marble wainscot plaster w/ panel molding	dirty, scratched some chips, E wall poor, W wall center poor	1-22, 23
Cornice	plaster	good except on E wall	1-22, 23
Ceiling	plaster - some coffering	good except E by center window	1-24
Windows	steel frame	dirty, rusted	1-22, 23
Window Frames	marble	dirty, some scratches	1-22, 23
Doors	painted metal glazed grille	need cleaning and paint touch-up	
Door Frames	grained metal	(same as above)	
Hardware	brass	dull	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		1-22, 23, 24
Special Features			
Remarks			





1-1; Rotunda.



1-2; Door to north wing.



1-3; Door to south wing.



1-4; Marble balustrade as seen from basement.





1-5; Detail, marble door frame in rotunda.

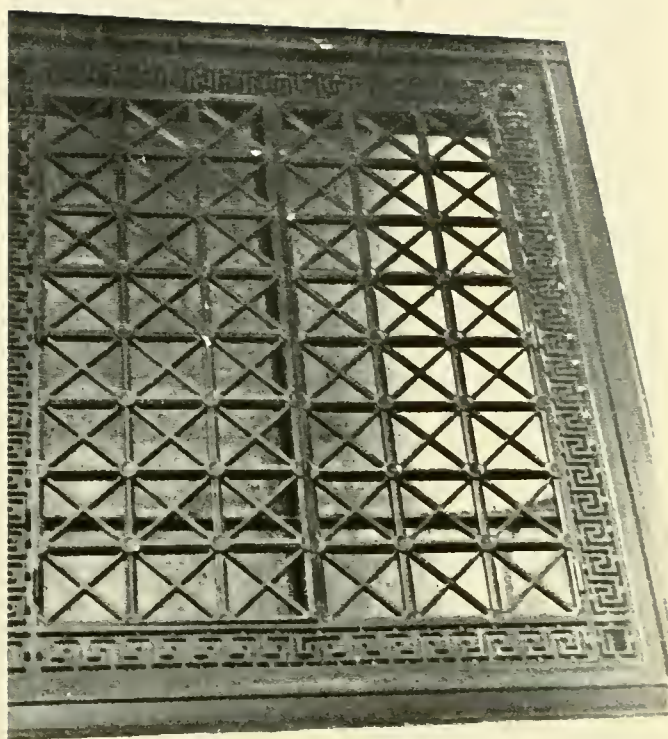




1-6; Stairs.



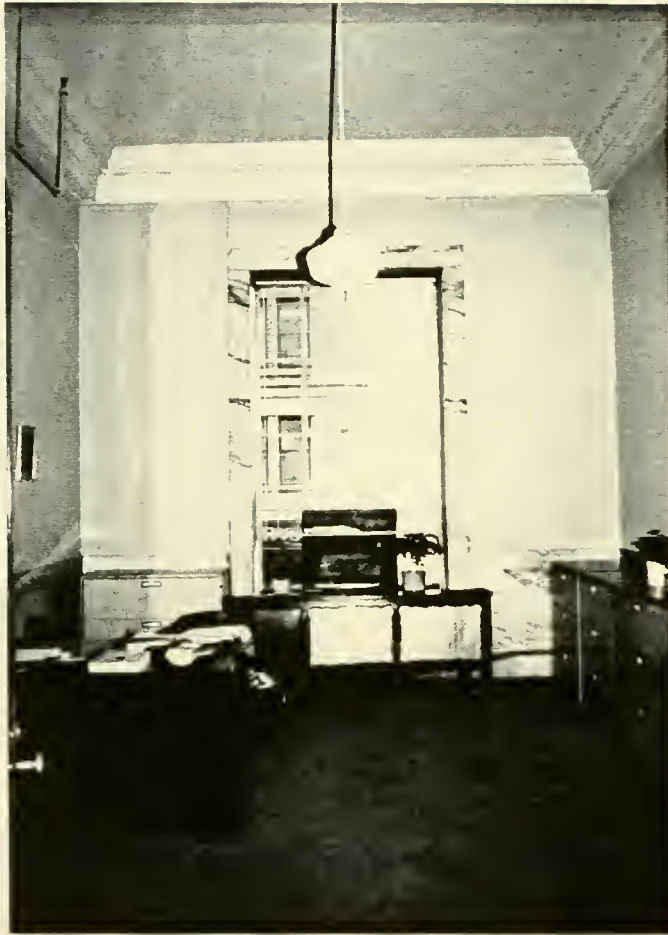
1-7; Stairs.



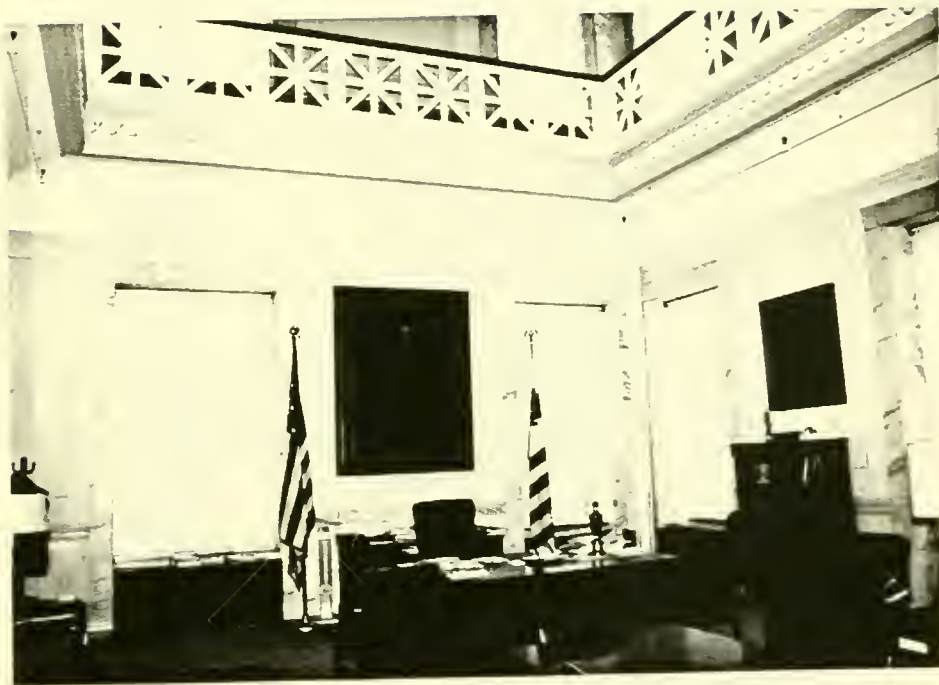
1-8; Grille over elevator well window opposite stairs.



1-9; Lobby, north wing.



1-10; Customs secretary's office.



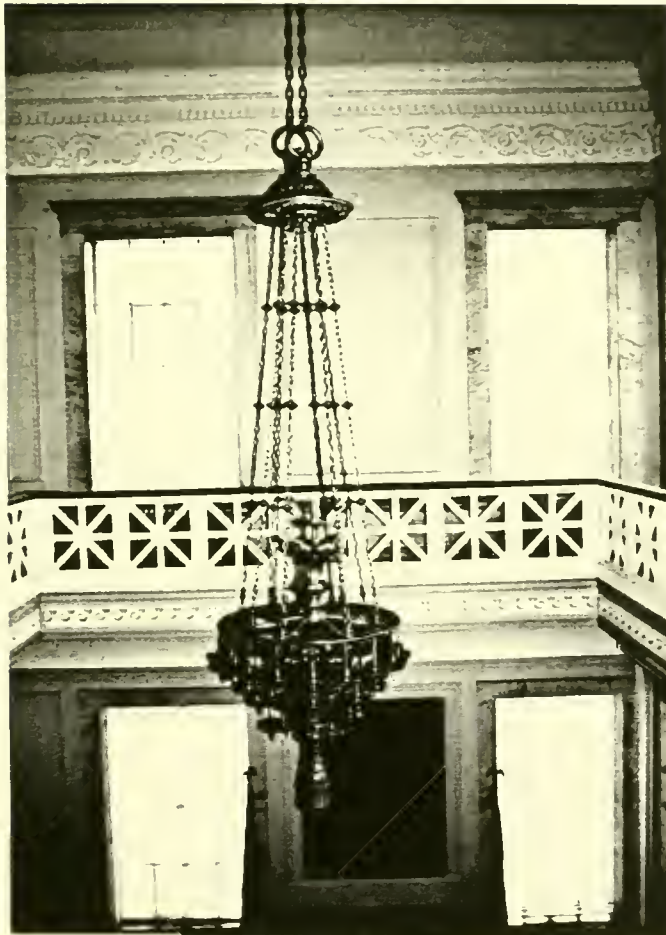
1-11; Director's office, looking north.



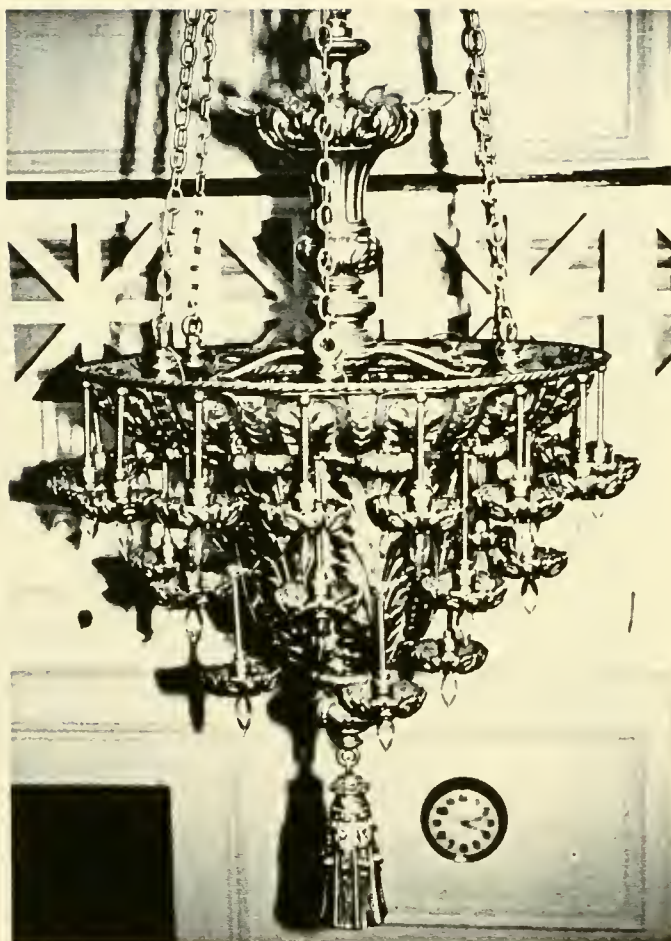


1-12; Director's office, south wall.





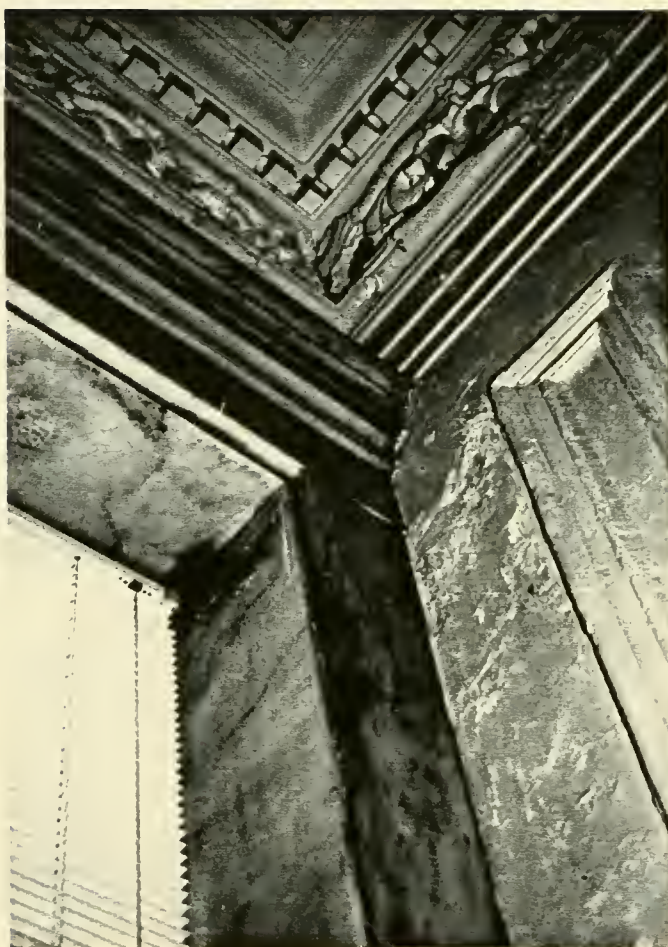
1-13; Director's office, looking north.



1-14; Chandelier, Director's office.



1-15; Director's office, southeast corner.

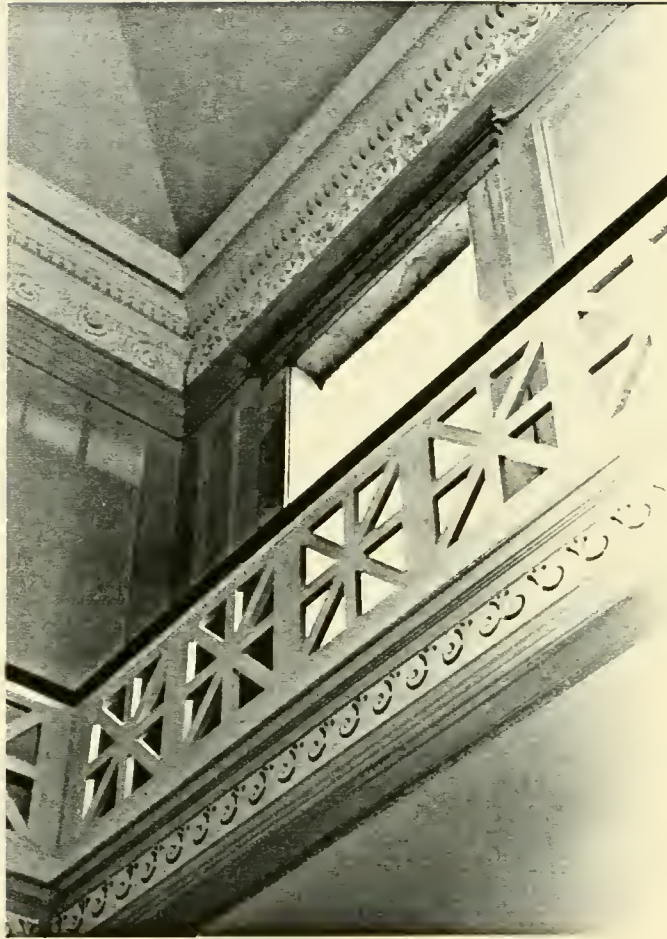


1-16; Director's office, detail, southeast corner.



1-17; Director's office, north wall.



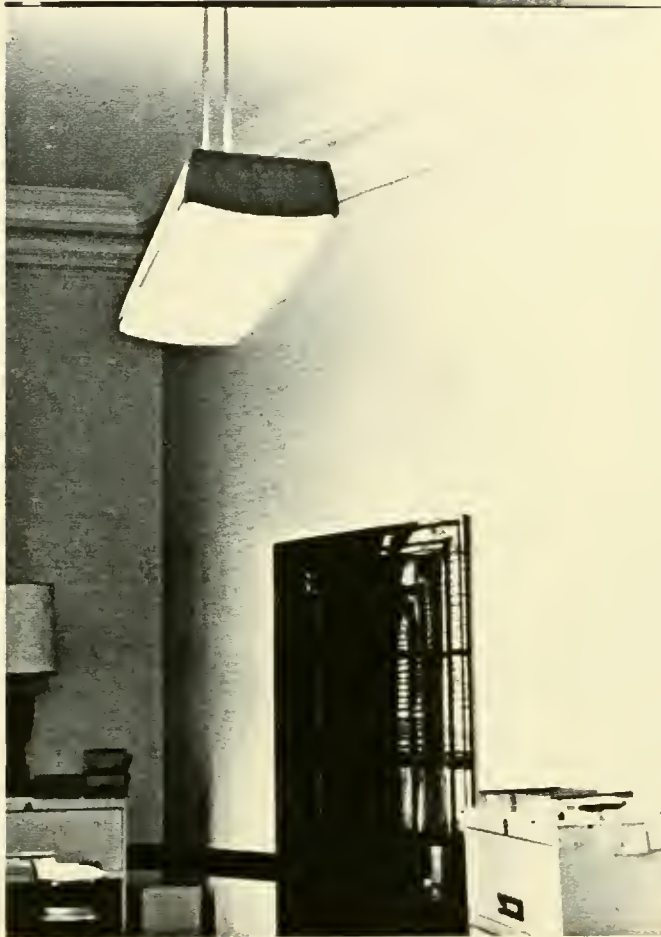


1-18; Director's office, northwest corner.

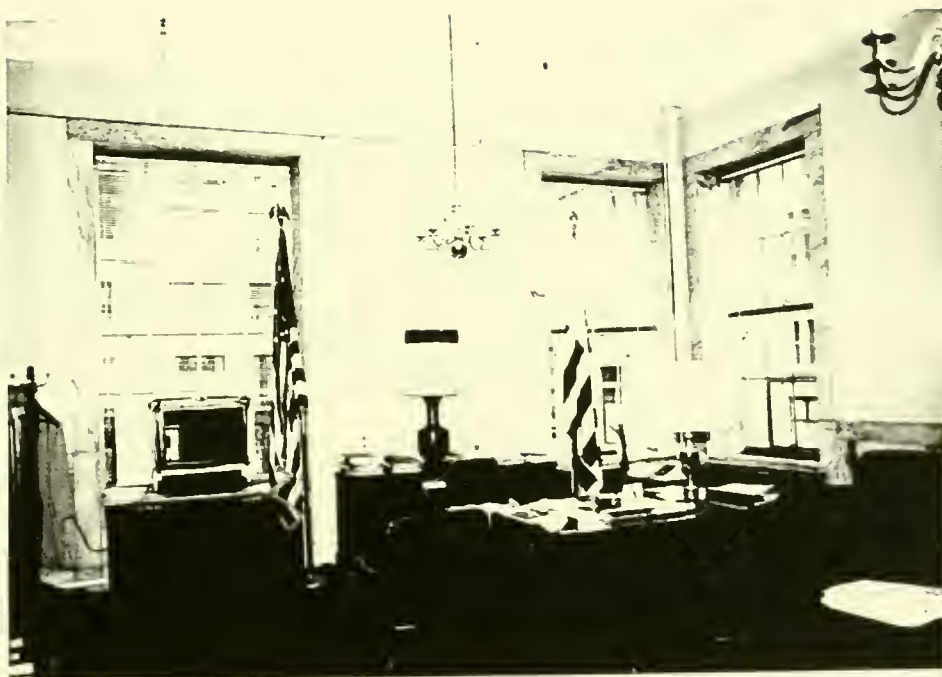


1-19; Detail, pre 1912 marble dado, south wall.





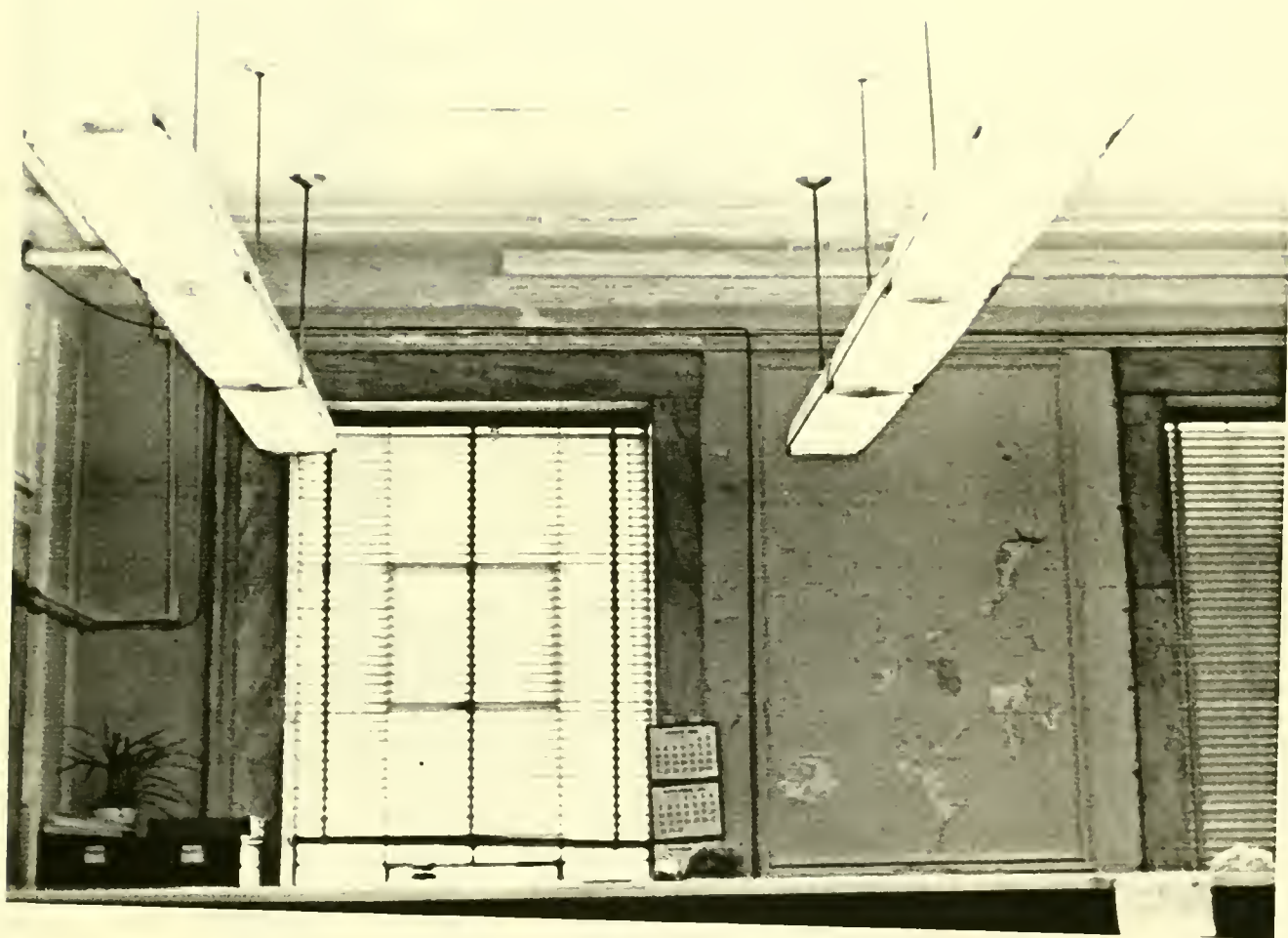
1-20; Director's private office.



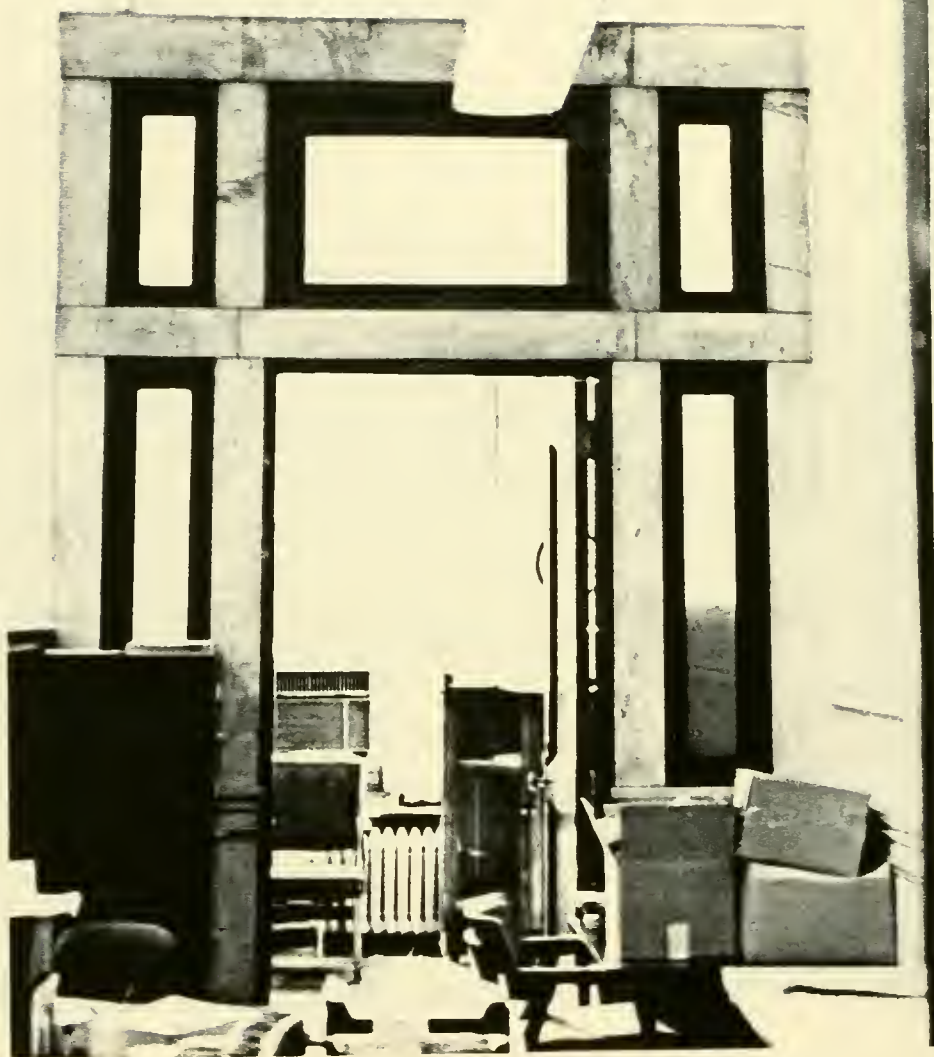
1-21; Special deputy's office.



1-22; South wing.



1-23; East wall, south wing.



1-24; Partition at northwest corner, south wing.

CHAPTER 7  
SECOND FLOOR

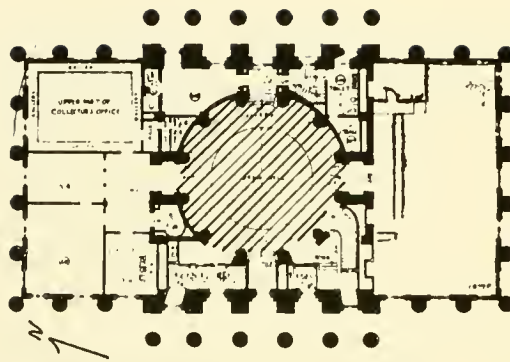




SECOND FLOOR; Rotunda

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

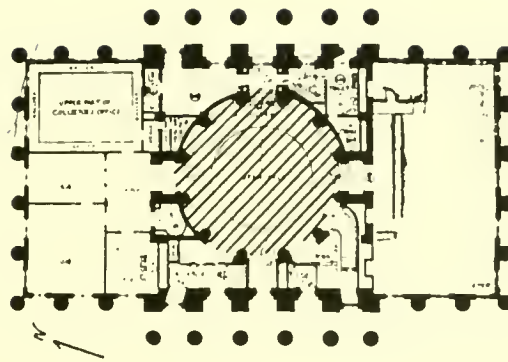
SECOND FLOOR  
Rotunda



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble tile	1912		P&S #94	
Base-board	none				
Walls	white marble: carved Greek key frieze half way up walls & rinceau frieze at top of wall	1912		P&S #111, 112, 206	
Cornice	elaborate entablature w/ egg and dart, and dentil moldings*	1912		(same as above)	
Ceiling	marble clad iron dome panelled, w/ patterned lights in panels	1912		(same as above)	
Windows	Kalamein				
Window Frames	marble reveals	1912			
Doors	metal, grained	1912			2-5
Door Frames	marble, w/ molded cornices	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	frosted glass globes				
Special Features	twelve monolithic engaged corinthian columns; E & W window recesses: acanthus leaf cornice;**				2-1
Remarks:	* modillions, patera, and anthemion band above (photo 2-2, 3, 4) ** metal balustrade at center opening; opening faced with marble decorated with Greek wave frieze				

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SECOND FLOOR  
Rotunda



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble	highly polished, joints blackened, good condition	
Base- board	none		
Walls	marble	stained and soiled - evidence of coating gone yellowish - dull surface	2-1, 17
Cornice	plaster, unpolished marble in E & W niches	somewhat dirty, but good	2-17
Ceiling	dome	in W niches peeling badly	
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	grained metal	need cleaning & touch-up	2-5
Door Frames	marble	good - some chipping & soiling	
Hardware	brass	good, but dull	
Elect. Fixt.	hanging frosted spheres		2-4
Special Features			

Remarks: Stairs between 1 & 2 only have worn treads of cheap granolithic over marble.  
Center balustrade is painted iron with brass rail. Paint is green and chipped; originally  
painted grey, dark green.



SECOND FLOOR; Rotunda: East and West Alcoves

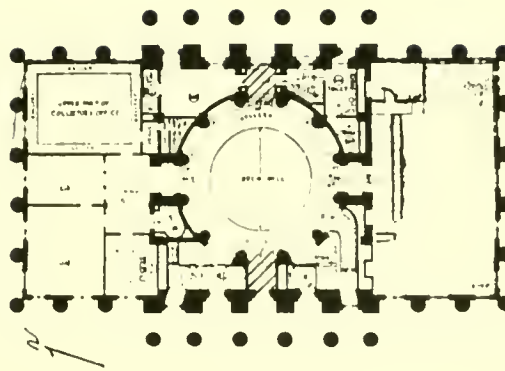
Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SECOND FLOOR  
Rotunda;  
East and West  
Alcoves

NO ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY FOR THIS SPACE

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SECOND FLOOR  
Rotunda Alcoves



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble, marble steps	dirty	
Base-board	marble	dirty, dusty	
Walls	marble	slightly dirty	2-2
Cornice	marble	dusty	2-2, 3, 4
Ceiling	plaster	water damage, cracks	2-2, 3
Windows	Kalamein	dirty, some corrosion and streaks	
Window Frames	marble	dusty	
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	none		
Elect. Fixt.	frosted spheres		
Special Features	W alcove has marble plaque identifying original Custom House	Black paint in letters is peeling	2-2
Remarks			

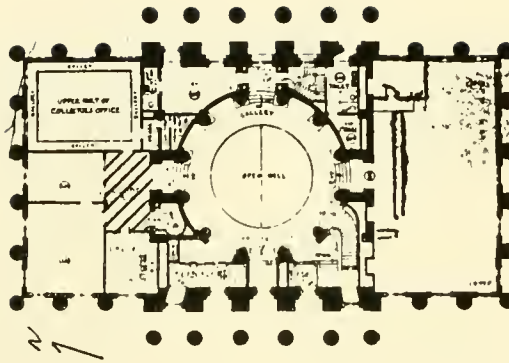




SECOND FLOOR: North Wing Lobby

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

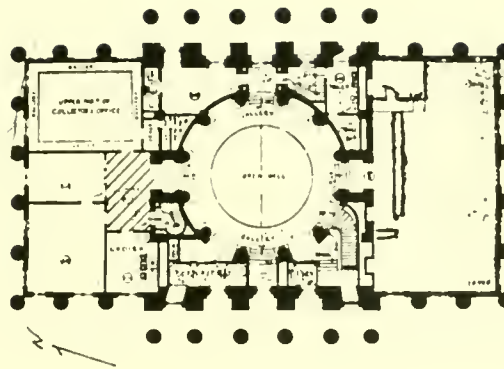
SECOND FLOOR  
North Wing Lobby



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble tile	1912		P&S #94, BPL	
Base-board	marble, molded	1912			
Walls	marble to above door transom with molded chair rail and cornice; plaster with panel moldings above				
Cornice	plaster, deeply molded	1912			2-7
Ceiling	plaster, coffered	1912			
Windows	in partitions, frosted glass	1912			
Window Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		2-6
Doors	metal with frosted glass lights	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Hardware	simple brass knobs	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	fluorescent strip/egg crate grid	recent			
Special Features					
Remark					

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SECOND FLOOR  
North Wing Lobby



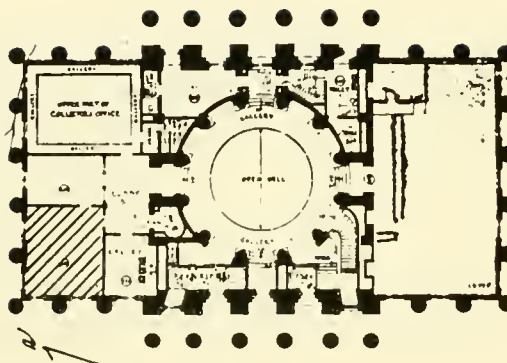
Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	marble	good, slightly scratched, joints dark	
Base-board	marble, molded	minor nicks and scratches	
Walls	marble, panelled plaster	some soiling, abrasion on marble; plaster is good	2-6
Cornice	molded plaster	good, dusty	2-7
Ceiling	coffered plaster	good	2-7
Windows	frosted glass in metal	good, slightly dirty	2-6
Window Frames	grained metal	good, minor nicks	2-6
Doors	grained metal	good, minor scratches, chips	2-5
Door Frames	grained metal, marble	good	2-5, 6
Hardware	brass	tarnished	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		
Special Features			
Remarks			



SECOND FLOOR; Northwest Rooms

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SECOND FLOOR  
Northwest Room  
(1911: Stenographer  
and Law Library)

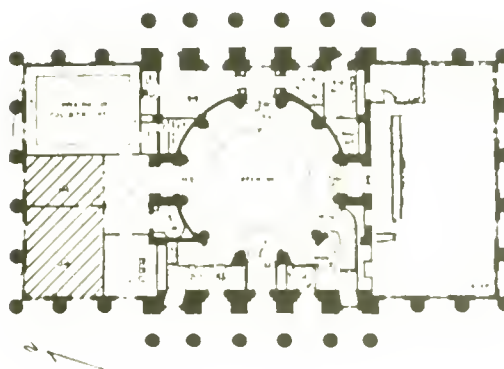


Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	linoleum	c. 1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	
Base-board	marble, plain	1912			
Walls	marble dado; plain marble dado cap; plaster above	1912		P&S #94, BPL	
Cornice	plaster, with pronounced moldings	1912		P&S #112, BPL	
Ceiling	plaster	1912			
Windows	metal	1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	
Window Frames	plain marble reveals, sills and surrounds	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Doors	metal, simulating wood panelling	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Door Frames	metal, with plain marble surrounds	1912			
Hardware	plain brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over fluorescent strips	recent			
Special Features					
Remarks					



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SECOND FLOOR  
Northwest Rooms



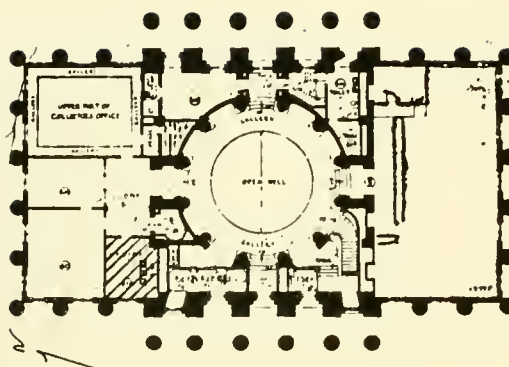
Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	linoleum	worn, dirty	
Base-board	flat marble	some scratches	
Walls	marble wainscot, plaster above	abraded, some stains	
Cornice	molded plaster	dusty, but damaged	
Ceiling	plaster		
Windows	steel factory sash	rusty, dirty	
Window Frames	marble	dirty, some scratches	
Doors	grained metal	chipped, some minor alligatoring	
Door Frames	marble	soiled, chipped	
Hardware	brass	dull	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		
Special Features			
Remarks			



SECOND FLOOR; Women's Toilet

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SECOND FLOOR  
Women's Toilet

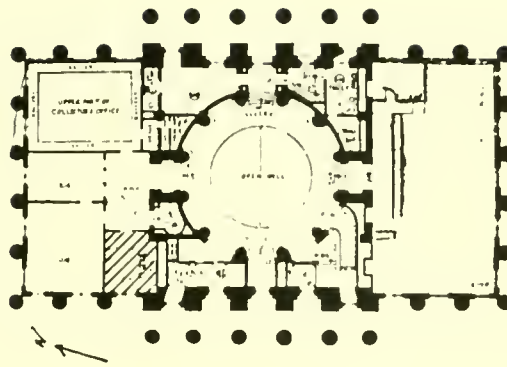


Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	granolithic with pink marble border	1912		P&S #94	2-8
Base-board	none				
Walls	plain pink marble wainscot	1912	polished		
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	plaster	1912			
Windows	metal	1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	
Window Frames	metal	1912			
Doors	metal	1912			
Door Frames	metal	1912			
Hardware	metal	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	bare bulbs				
Special Features	pink marble stalls and original 1912 sinks	1912			

Remarks: This room exemplifies the original finish of the toilet rooms with its polished pink marble wainscotting, granolithic floors and pedestalled sinks. Perhaps one third of the toilet rooms in the Custom House have lost the marble wainscotting and been refinished in ceramic tiles.

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SECOND FLOOR  
Women's Toilet



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	granolithic w/ pink marble border	very good - needs cleaning and waxing	
Base-board	flat marble	some chips and abrasion	2-8
Walls	plaster above flat pink marble wainscot	marble is fine - abit soiled; plaster is terrible - water damage	2-8
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster	much water damage	
Windows	steel factory sash	corroded	2-8
Window Frames	marble	dirty	2-8
Doors	wood in stalls, grained metal	need refinishing some touch-up paint and varnish	
Door Frames	grained metal	some wear and paint loss	
Hardware	brass, chrome plate	fair - could be saved	
Elect. Fixt.	hanging lights but no globes	fair	
Special Features	porcelain wash basins	excellent condition	2-8
Remarks			

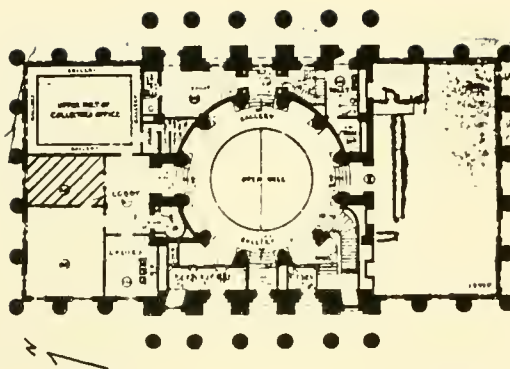


SECOND FLOOR; Mail Office (North)



Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SECOND FLOOR  
Mail Office  
(North)



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	unknown			P&S #94, BPL	
Base-board	marble, plain	1912			
Walls	plain marble dado and cap	1912		P&S #112, BPL	
Cornice	plaster, molded	1912			
Ceiling	plaster	1912			
Windows	metal	1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	
Window Frames	plain marble architraves	1912			
Doors	metal simulating wooden panelling	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Door Frames	metal, with marble surrounds	1912			
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.					
Special Features					
Remarks					

SECOND FLOOR; Small Mail Room (East)

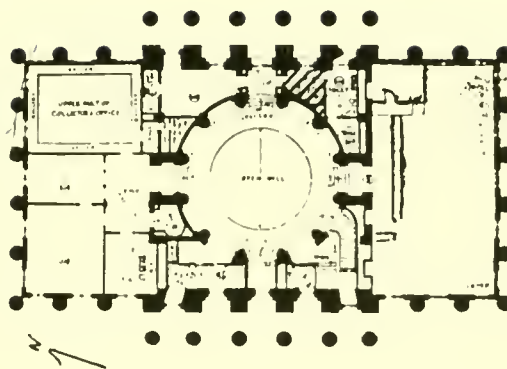
Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SECOND FLOOR  
Small Mail Room  
(East)

NO ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY FOR THIS SPACE

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SECOND FLOOR  
Small Mail Room  
(East)



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	linoleum under carpet	fair	
Base-board	flat marble	fair	
Walls	marble wainscot, plaster above	good, no apparent water damage	
Cornice	molded plaster	good	
Ceiling	flat plaster	good	
Windows	Kalamein	fair - some dirt and corrosion	
Window Frames	flat marble	some dirt, but good	
Doors	grained metal	good	
Door Frames	grained metal and marble	good	
Hardware	brass	dull	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		
Special Features			

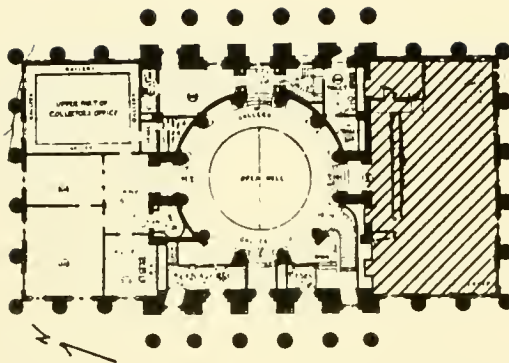
Remarks: This area was shown as a stairway in 1915.  
Paint layers on wall include soft greys and rose.



SECOND FLOOR; South Wing; Auditor's Room

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SECOND FLOOR  
South Wing  
Auditor's Office



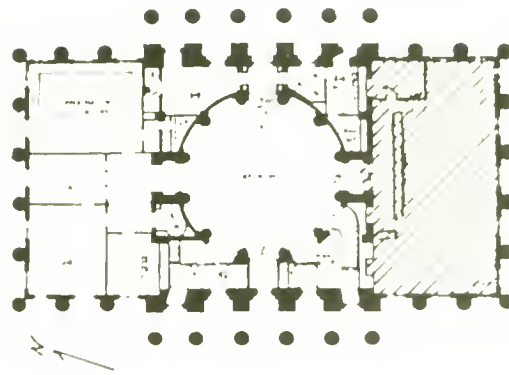
Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	carpet	recent			
Base-board	marble, molded	1912		P&S #94, 111, 112, BPL	2-14,
Walls	marble dado with molded marble cap; plaster with panel moldings above	1912			2-13, 15
Cornice	plaster; rinceau frieze, dentil course and pronounced moldings	between 1866 & 1874*		Mullett plans: 2-9, 10 Fold. 1-1, 7, 11, 13 Nat. Archives, 13 P&S 111,112,BPL	
Ceiling	coved	1866-1874			(same as above)
Windows	metal	1950		27 DE 10-15, GSA, Boston	2-9, 11
Window Frames	marble, with molded marble cornices	1912			2-13
Doors	metal, simulating wooden panelling	1912	"mahogany" grained		
Door Frames	metal frames, marble architraves with molded cornices	1912			
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over fluorescent strips	recent			
Special Features					

Remarks: SEE FOLLOWING PAGE



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SECOND FLOOR  
South Wing;  
Auditor's Office



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet over ?	poor	
Base-board	marble, molded	scratched & dirty - fair	2-14, 15
Walls	paneled plaster over low marble wainscot	some dirt, scratches, chips, abrasion	2-14, 15, 16
Cornice	molded plaster and rinceau	NE & NW corners - missing - much water damage	2-9
Ceiling	coved plaster	good except small spot in center & NE & NW corners, and N side	2-9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Windows	steel sash	corroded	
Window Frames	marble	soiled, dull, nicked	2-9, 11, 13
Doors	grained metal	painted over on rotunda side; needs cleaning and touch-up	
Door Frames	grained metal architraves	need cleaning and touch-up	
Hardware	brass	dull	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		2-9
Special Features			
Remarks			

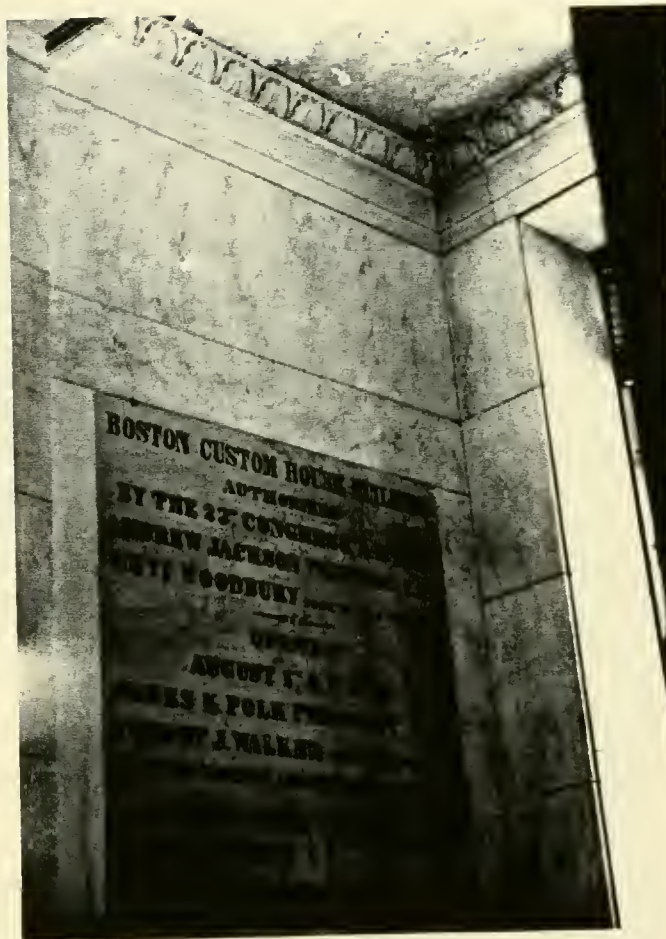
Remarks for SECOND FLOOR, South Wing, Curator's Office

- \* Without further intrusive investigation it is impossible to be certain how much of the finish of this room survives from the Mullett era of 1866 - 1874. Clearly the design of the room is Mullett's. When A.B. Mullett, supervising architect of the treasury, removed the south staircase, he redesigned the south wing, second floor to be one large room incorporating the space previously given over to stairs and subsidiary rooms (compare Figures 60, 61, and 62 in Vol. I of the Historic Structure Report). He also removed the original groin vaulted ceiling of the south wing, second floor and apparently substituted shallow brick arches supported by metal (probably iron) I-beams (Figure 62, Vol I.). This allowed Mullett to install a higher, coved ceiling. The coved ceiling shown on Mullett's section is identical in contour to the present ceiling (compare plan, Folder 1, 1, National Archives [fig. 62] with Peabody and Stearns drawings 111 and 112 in the BPL). The design of the frieze and cornice in Mullett's work are different from the existing work. Mullett's frieze is finished with tri-glyphs rather than rinceau plaster work and the molding profiles of the architrave and cornice he shows are not identical to the current work. Also, Mullett's drawing calls for a coffered ceiling which is not now present. Whether these changes were made by Mullett before construction or by Peabody and Stearns, it is impossible to tell. It is worth noting, however, that the collector's room in the north wing which has a similar rinceau frieze was created by Peabody and Stearns. Before 1912, that space was two bays, rather than three bays north to south (compare Fig. 66, Vol. I an 1899 plan of the second floor with Peabody and Stearns drawings 94, and 112).

The darker grey marble window architraves and dado pieces in all probability survive from the Mullett era, being in general shape like those shown on Mullett's section drawing (Fig. 62, Vol. 1). Mullett shows panel moldings on the window architraves, however, and these are not now present. Although it is impossible to be certain, these darker marble elements are more likely to be Mullett's work than Young's. Young's drawings do not show a dado or window architrave in this area (Fig. 44b, Vol. 1). Where Young does show window caps, they are slightly peaked.



2-1; Rotunda, looking south.



2-2; Plaque, west window alcove.



2-3; Ceiling in west window alcove.





2-4; East window recess, ceiling.



2-5; Detail, door to north wing.

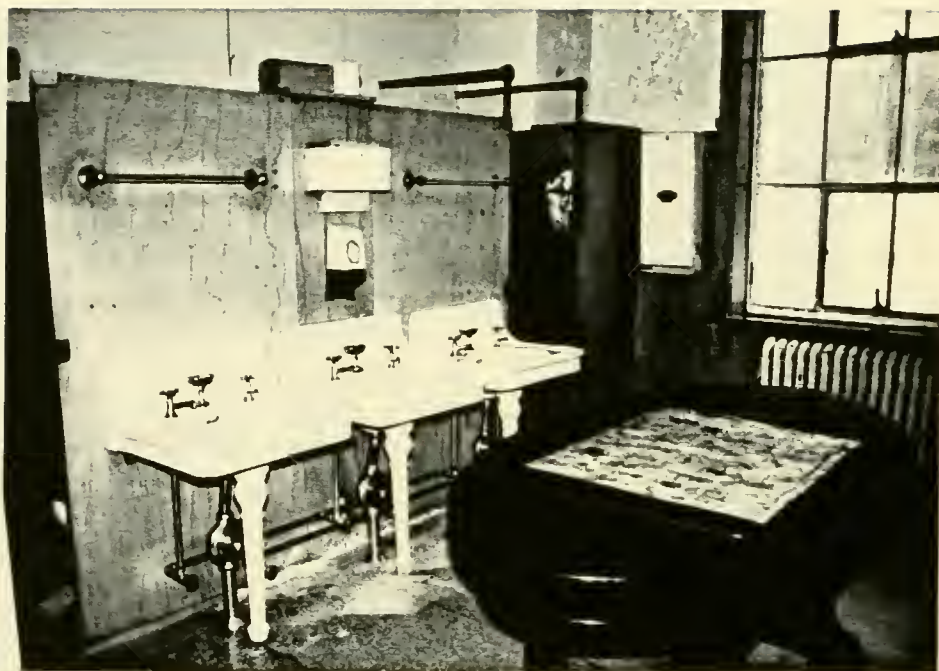




2-6; Lobby, north wing.



2-7; Ceiling in Lobby, norht wing.



2-8; Women's toilet, norht wing.



2-9; Ceiling - Auditor's room, south wing, southeast corner.

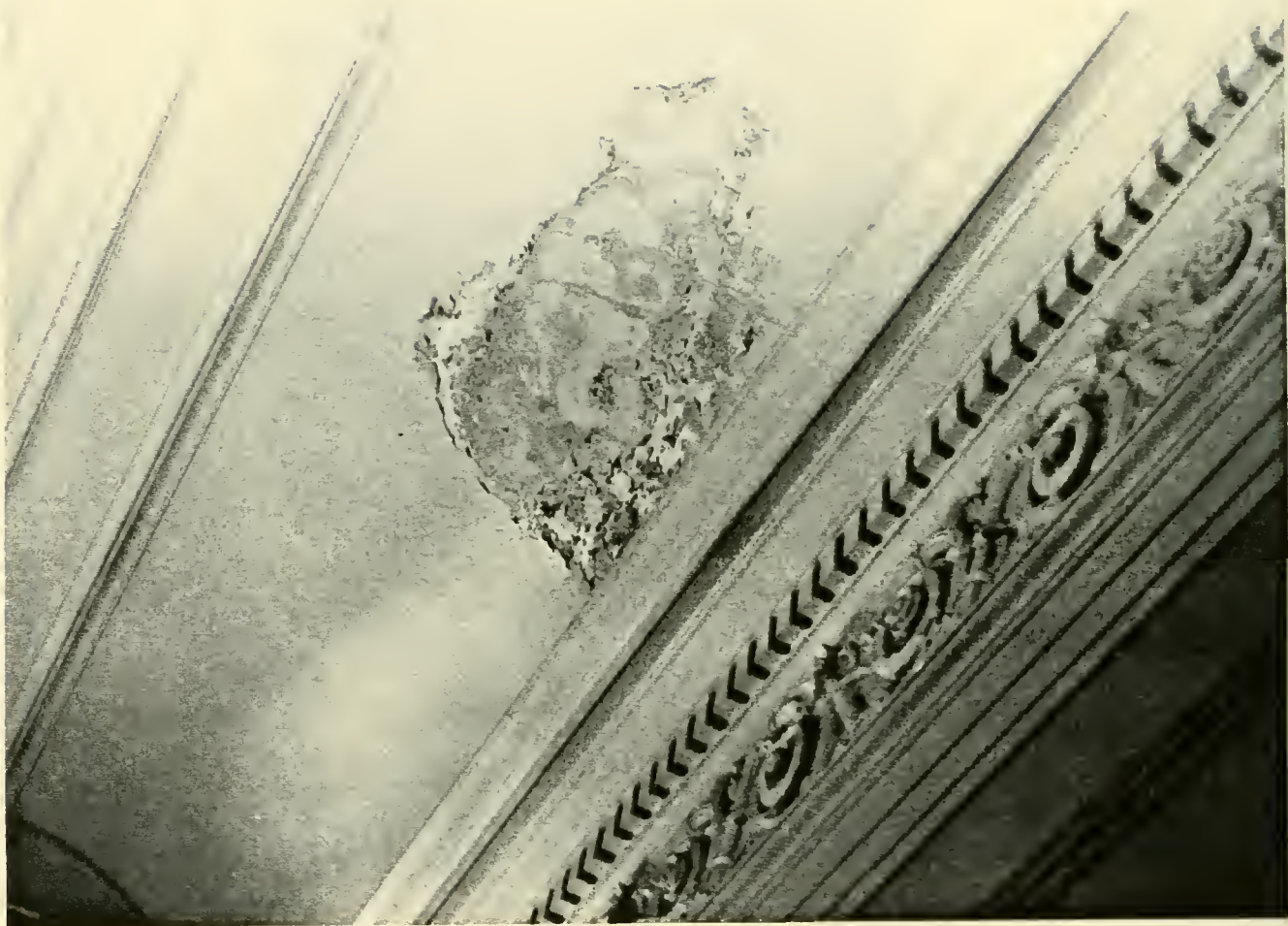


2-10; Auditor's room, south wing, east wall.



2-11; Auditor's room, south wing, northeast corner.





2-12; Detail, coved ceiling, Auditor's room, south wing.





2-13; Auditor's room, south wing, northwest corner.



2-14; Auditor's room, north wall, behind water fountain.



2-15; Auditor's room, wainscot on north wall,  
to west of main door.



2-16; Auditor's room, moulding on plaster wall  
above wainscot, north wall.





2-17; Typical joint in fluted marble columns of rotunda.



2-18;



2-19; Balustrade, second floor stair.





2-20; Original wall sconce, stairwell in SW corner, 3rd floor

## CHAPTER 8

### FOURTH FLOOR

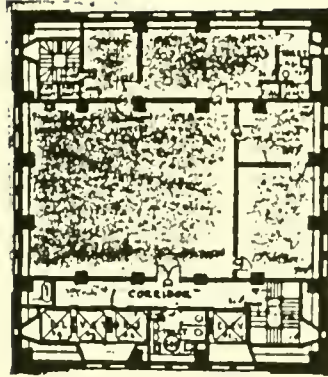


There is no cross-hatching on all of the following floor plans as the areas surveyed were the office spaces exclusively. Toilet, stair, and corridor conditions are remarkably homogeneous and are described in The Executive Summary.



Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

FOURTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	carpet	Recent	Terrazzo	P&S #97, BPL	
Base-board	terra cotta	1912			
Walls	plaster with grained metal chair rail	1912			
Cornice	wooden picture rail	post 1912			
Ceiling	plaster				
Windows	Kalamein	1912			
Window Frames	metal, molded; marble sills	1912	"Mahogany" grained		
Doors	metal, simulating wooden paralled doors	1912	(same as above)		
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	(same as above)		
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912			
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over flourescent strips				
Special Features					
Remarks: See page following					

Remarks for FOURTH FLOOR

Corridor: standard finish of marble tile, marble wainscot.

Bathroom: refinished with ceramic tile.

The fourth floor retains its original layout. Whether or not the fourth and fifth floors were ever one vertical space after the building was occupied, with the fifth floor forming a gallery remains uncertain. Clearly such a gallery is shown on Peabody and Stearns' 1911 plans.

Plans of the fifth floor in the GSA collection dated May 1, 1914 instruct "Fill open well in floor" and "remove stairs", suggesting that wells on this floor and certain upper floors were floored over before the building was occupied.





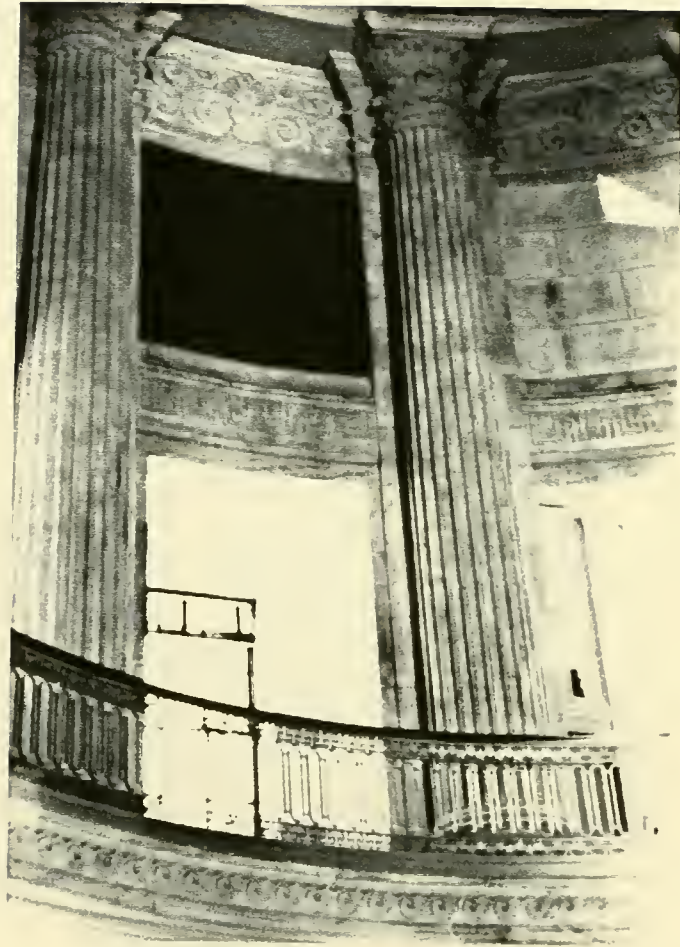
29 - View of typical frames: nicked and chipped, and streaked by careless cleaning.



30 - View into office on west side of Auditor's Office showing typical frosted glass, grained metal frames, and marble surrounds, used in the more important offices.



31 - View of more cleaning problems on grained metalwork.



32 - View of Peabody and Stearns rotunda, showing painted bronze gallery rail and uneven tones of marble surfaces.



33 - View of 1950 painted steel star and seal and surrounding plasterwork in rotunda.





Figure 34

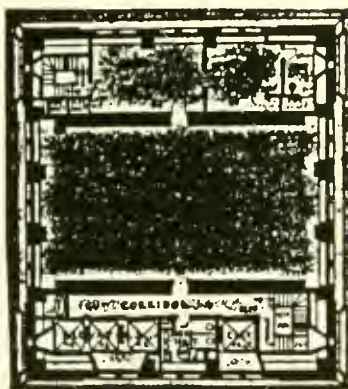
CHAPTER 9  
SIXTH FLOOR





Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

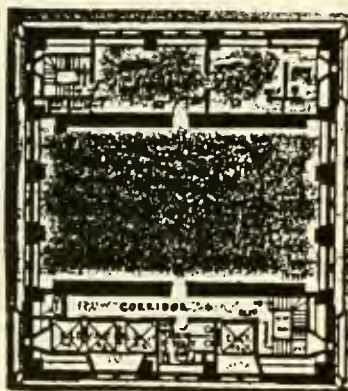
SIXTH FLOOR  
Stair Hall



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source	Photo#
Floor	marble stair treads; panelled metal risers	1912		BPL	P&S #11
Base- board	marble, plain	1912			
Walls	plaster	1912			
Cornice	none				
Ceiling	exposed metal under- side of stairs	1912			
Windows	lancet windows with deep marble sills	1912			
Window Frames					
Doors	none				
Door Frames	none				
Hardware	none				
Elect. Fixt.					
Special stairs:	metal with Features ornamental balustrade				
Remarks:	The stair hall design remains the same through the 18th floor.				

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

SIXTH FLOOR  
Elevator Lobby

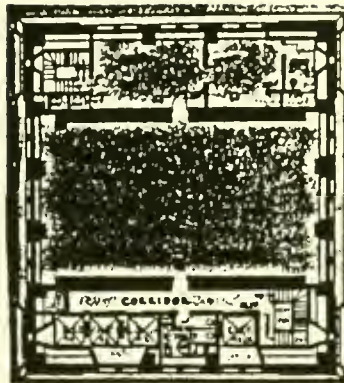


Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source Photo#
Floor	marble tile	1912		P&S #98
Base-marble, plain board		1912		
Walls	plaster	1912		
Cornice	small picture rail	post 1912		
Ceiling	plaster	1912		
Windows	partition windows: frosted plate glass	1912		
Window Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained	
Doors	metal, simulating wooden panelled doors	1912	(same as above)	
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	(same as above)	
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over fluorescent strips	Recent		
Special Features				

Remarks: All elevator lobbies between the fourth and 18th floors retain similar 1912 finishes. For original design of elevator screens in the 4th through 18th floors see Fig. 96, Vol. 1.

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

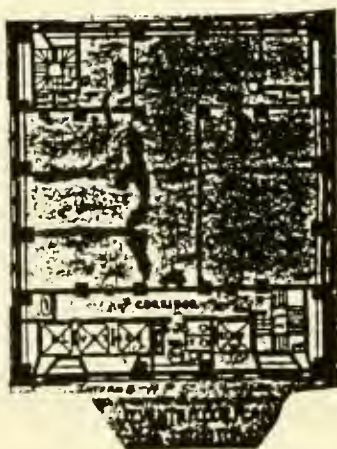
SIXTH FLOOR  
Office Space



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source Photo#
Floor	carpet	1912	terrazzo in public space	P&S #98, BPL
Base-board	marble, plain in public space	1912		
Walls	east wall: marble dado with molded cap, plaster above N,S,W walls: plaster with metal chair rail	1912		
Cornice	none			
Ceiling	plaster	1912		
Windows	Kalamein, 2 over 2; marble sills	1912		
Window Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained	
Doors	metal, simulating wooden panelled doors	1912	(same as above)	
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	(same as above)	
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over fluorescent strips			
Special Features				
Remarks:	The original floor plan is retained, but marble faced counters have been removed. The southwest office is covered with acoustical tile.			

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

SEVENTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	concrete	covered	
Base-board	painted orange terra cotta	chipped - 10%-20%	35
Walls	plaster, painted metal chair rail	good	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster above dropped acoustical	fair	
Windows	wood, Kalamine marble sills	(remove air conditioners) fair to good - needed paint & cleaning	34
Window Frames	grained (painted) metal	some chips	
Doors	painted grained metal frosted & clear glass	good, some chipped	35
Door Frames	(cf. above)	good	35
Hardware	modern brass-plated	good	35
Elect. Fixt.	egg-crate	good	36
Special Features			
Remarks:			



Figure 35



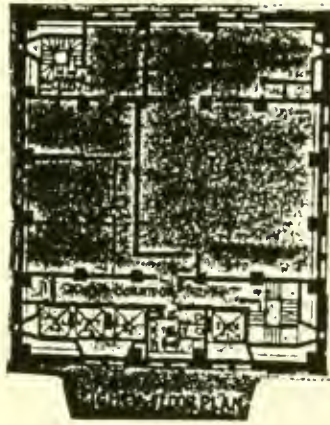


Figure 36



Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

EIGHTH FLOOR



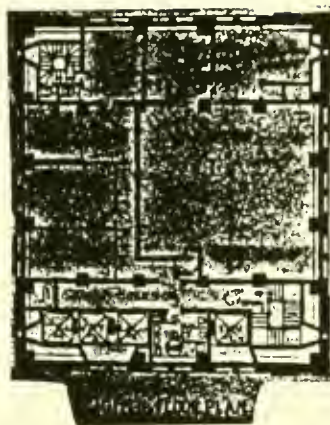
Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source Photo#
Floor	linoleum and carpet	recent		P&S #98, BPL
Base-board	wooden	recent		
Walls	plaster with wood chair rail	rail: recent		
Cornice	none			
Ceiling	plaster	1912		
Windows	Kalamein; partitions: frosted glass set in metal	1912		
Window Frames	metal, molded	1912	"mahogany" grained	
Doors	metal, simulating	1912	(same as above)	
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	(same as above)	
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over fluorescent strips	recent		
Special Features				

Remarks: The elevator lobby retains its 1912 marble floor and wainscotting. The office space has been substantially subdivided with recent wooden partitions.



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

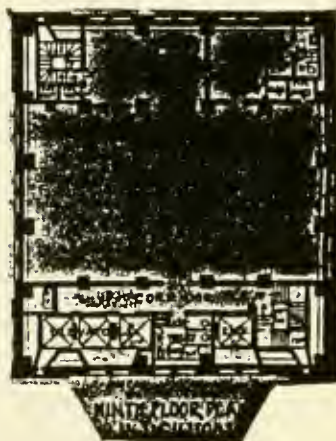
EIGHTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	linoleum	worn, dirty	
Base-board	painted terra cotta	chipped	
Walls	plaster	fair to good - 20% peeling paint	
Cornice	none - some picture rail	fair	
Ceiling	dropped acoustical tile	fair	
Windows	same	corroded and dirty, chipped marble	37
Window Frames	same	blistered paint	37
Doors	same	(same as above)	37
Door Frames	same	(same as above)	
Hardware	same		
Elect. Fixt.	same		
Special Features			
Remarks:			

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

NINTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source Photo#
Floor	carpet	recent		P&S #99, BPL
Base-board	plain terra cotta	1912		
Walls	marble dado in in public area, elsewhere plaster with metal chair rail	1912	rail: "mahogany" grained	
Cornice	none			
Ceiling	plaster	1912		
Windows	Kalamein	1912		
Window Frames	metal, molded; marble sills	1912	"mahogany" grained	
Doors	metal	1912	(same as above)	
Door Frames	metal, molded	1912	(same as above)	
Hardware	plain	1912		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate	recent		
Special Features				
Remarks: Elevator lobby retains original finishes.				



Figure 37

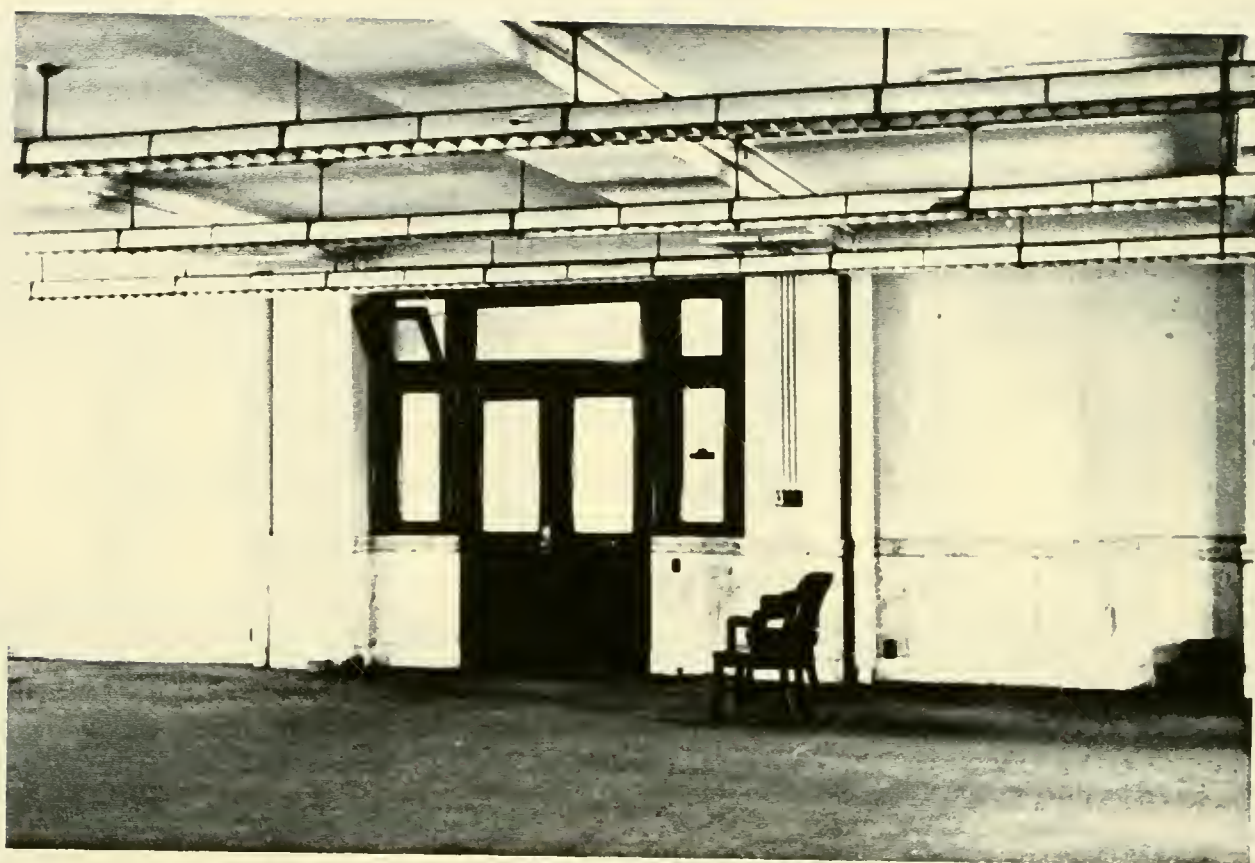
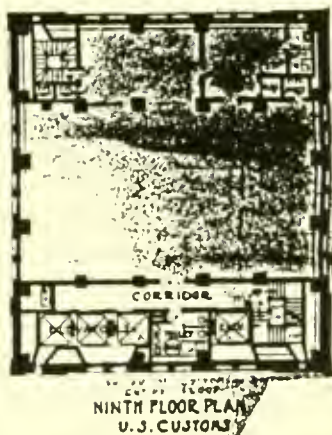


Figure 38



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

NINTH FLOOR



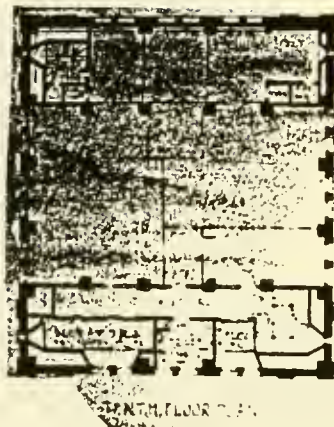
Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	concrete	covered with carpet	
Base-board	black metal over terra cotta	fair	
Walls	plaster	good	
Cornice	picture rail		
Ceiling	typical	good	38
Windows	typical	good	
Window Frames	typical	good	
Doors	typical	good	38
Door Frames	typical	good	
Hardware	typical	good	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate	fair	
Special Features			

Remarks: Original sink in Northeast corner. Most original open space left.



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TENTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor			
Base-board			
Walls		25% peeling paint	
Cornice			
Ceiling			
Windows			40
Window Frames			
Doors			
Door Frames			
Hardware			
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features			
Remarks: Typical of floors 6-18 but less fancy than the ninth floor.			



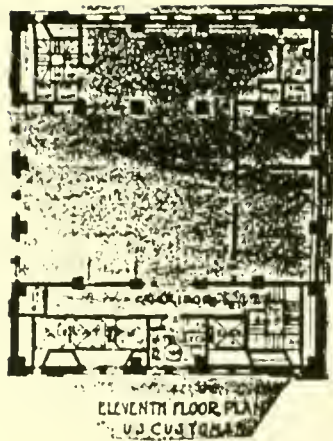
Figure 39



Figure 40

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

ELEVENTH FLOOR



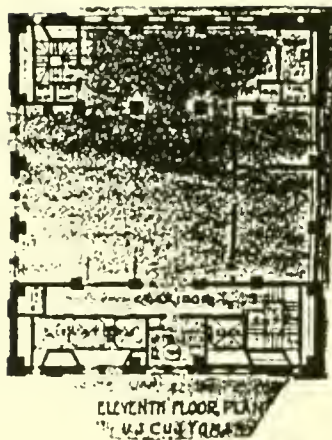
Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source Photo#
Floor	carpet	recent		P&S #100, BPL
Base-board	terra cotta, plain	1912		
Walls	marble dado with molded cap in public area: elsewhere plaster with metal chair rail	1912	rail: "mahogany" grained	
Cornice	none			
Ceiling	dropped			
Windows	Kalamein			
Window Frames	metal, molded		"mahogany" grained	
Doors	1) metal, simulating panelled wood 2) wood, plain c.1960	1912/1960	1) "	
Door Frames	metal			
Hardware				
Elect. Fixt.	fluorescent behind frosted glass panels			
Special Features				

Remarks: New partition in northeast portion of office space. Other areas retain original finish. Toilet off elevator lobby has 1912 marble wainscotting and stalls.



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

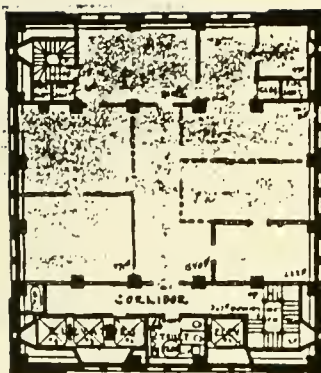
ELEVENTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpeted over terrazzo?	poor	
Base-board	painted terra cotta and lack plaster	fair to poor	
Walls	plaster	good	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	typical dropped		
Windows	typical		
Window Frames	typical		
Doors	typical		
Door Frames	typical		
Hardware	typical		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate and recessed	good	
Special Features			
Remarks: More fancy, intact like plan above in original toilet in Southeast corner, marble stall dividers.			

Inventory of  
Architectural  
Elements

TWELFTH FLOOR



BUREAU OF CUSTOMS - DIST.  
ENTRANCE FLOOR  
TWELFTH FLOOR PLAN

Element	Material/Description	Date	Orig.Finish	Source Photo#
Floor	carpet	recent		P&S #101, BPL
Base-board	terra cotta, plain	1912		
Walls	plaster; painted metal chair rail	1912		"mahogany" grained
Cornice	none			
Ceiling	plaster	1912		
Windows	Kalamein	1912		
Window Frames	metal, molded	1912		"mahogany" grained
Doors	1) metal 2) wood	1912		(same as above)
Door Frames	1) metal, molded with frosted glass panes 2) wood	1912/recent		1) "
Hardware	simple brass knobs and escutcheons	1912		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate grid over fluorescent strips	recent		
Special Features				

Remarks: Elevator lobby retains original finish. Office space has original layout and finish except for new partitions with wooden doors in the southeast corner. The toilet off the elevator lobby has been refinished with ceramic tile.





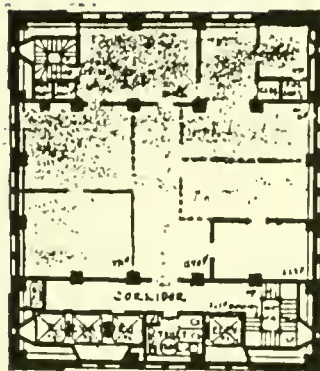
Figure 41



Figure 42

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWELFTH FLOOR

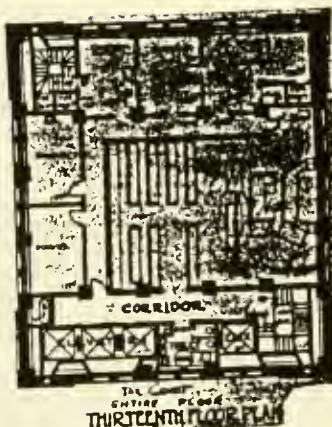


BUREAU OF CUSTOMS - DIST.  
ENTRANCE FLOOR  
TWELFTH FLOOR PLAN

Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet		
Base-board			
Walls			42
Cornice			
Ceiling			
Windows			
Window Frames			
Doors			
Door Frames			
Hardware			
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features			
Remarks: Open now. All typical--lots of plaster and water damage on East.			

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

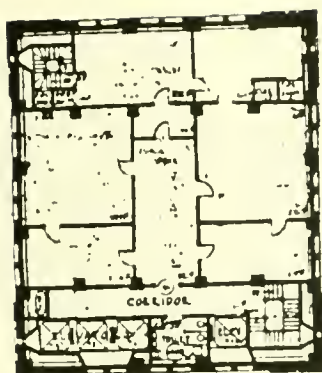
THIRTEENTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpeted	fair	
Base-board	new wood (walnut)	good	
Walls	new walnut panels	good	
Cornice	original picture above	good	
Ceiling	dropped ceiling	good	
Windows	original	good	
Window Frames	heating system fills area below marble sills on South	fair to good	
Doors	black metal	good	
Door Frames	black metal	good	
Hardware	panic hardware	good	
Elect. Fixt.	recessed		
Special Features			
Remarks:	Stairs painted black		

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FOURTEENTH FLOOR

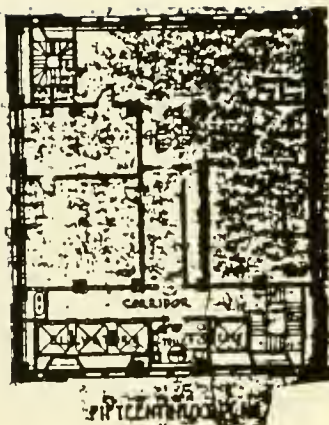


FOURTEENTH FLOOR PLAN  
U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE  
BOSTON, MASS.

Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet		
Base-board			
Walls	marble wainscot in tiny foyer at door		
Cornice			
Ceiling			
Windows			
Window Frames			
Doors			
Door Frames			
Hardware			
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features			
Remarks:	Stairs turquoise again. All typical.		

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

FIFTEENTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet	poor	
Base-board	black plastic		
Walls	acoustical tile		
Cornice	none visible		
Ceiling	acoustical tile		
Windows	original		44
Window Frames	typical		45
Doors	typical		
Door Frames	typical		
Hardware	typical		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		
Special Features			
Remarks:	All is soiled and worn.		





Figure 43



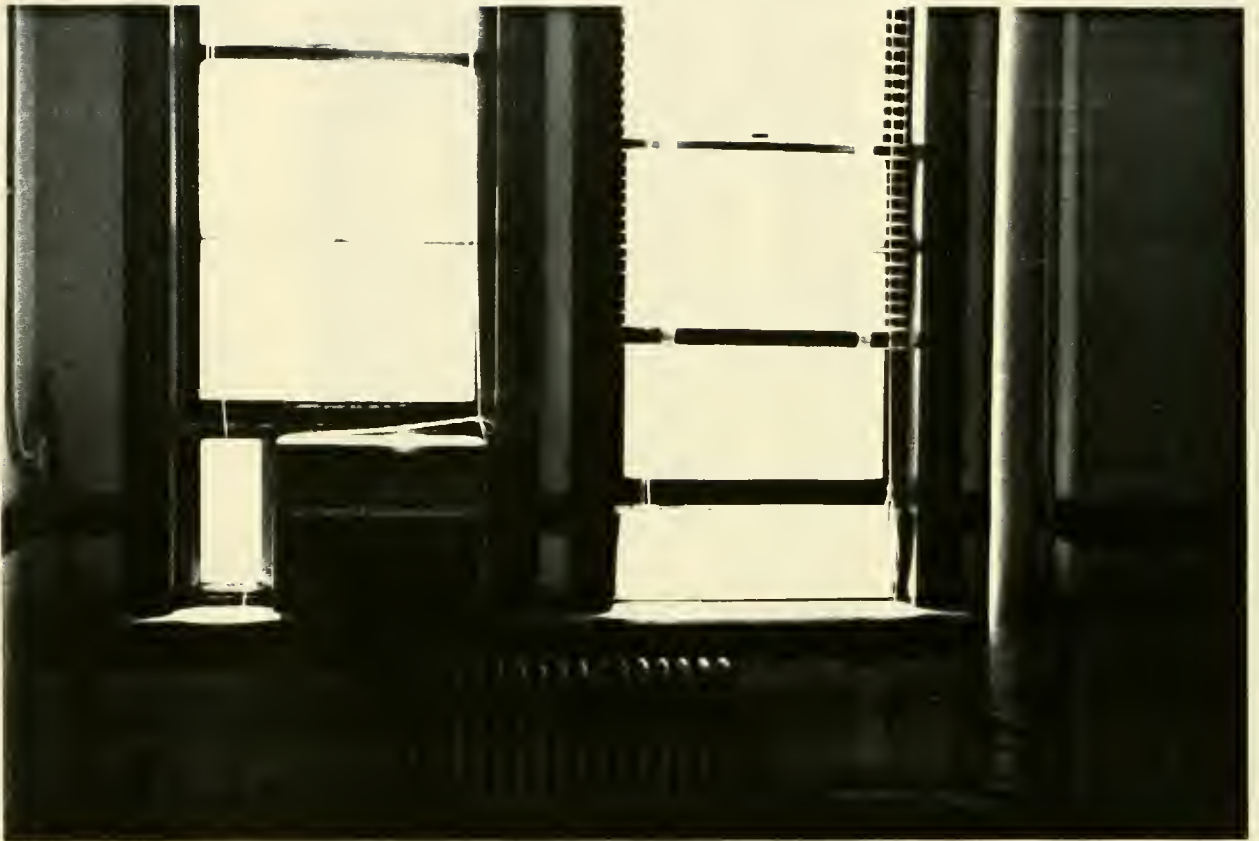


Figure 44



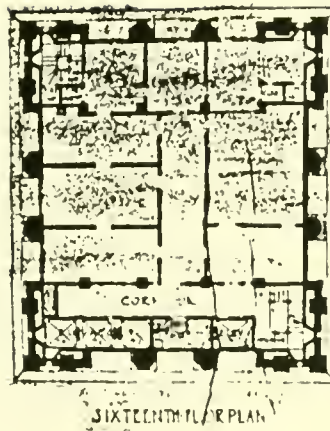
Figure 45



Figure 46

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

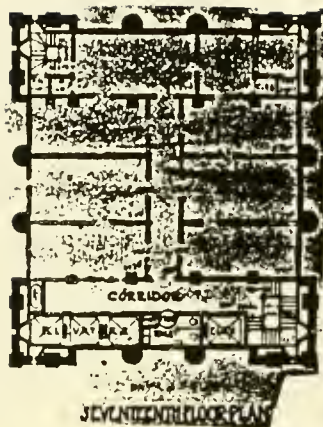
SIXTEENTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	linoleum	poor	
Base-board	painting terra cotta and plastic	poor	
Walls	plaster	good	
Cornice	picture rail	good	
Ceiling	plastered beams	good	
Windows	original	good	
Window Frames	typical	good	
Doors	typical	good	
Door Frames	typical	good	
Hardware	typical		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crates	poor	
Special Features			
Remarks:	Two corner windows on stairs!		

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

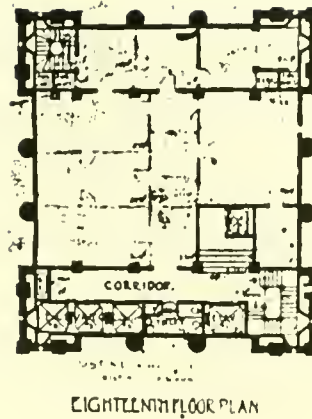
SEVENTEENTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo
Floor			
Base-board	marble!		
Walls			
Cornice			
Ceiling			
Windows			
Window Frames			
Doors			
Door Frames			
Hardware			
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features			
Remarks:	Dual corner windows on stairs.		

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

EIGHTEENTH FLOOR

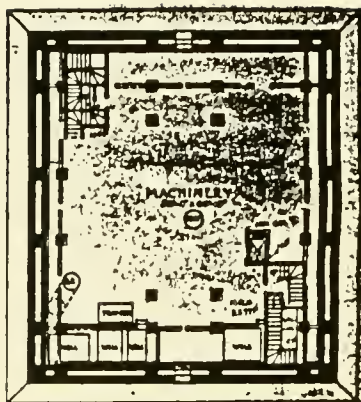


Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet		
Base-board	black plastic		
Walls	plaster		
Cornice			
Ceiling			
Windows			
Window Frames			
Doors			
Door Frames			
Hardware			
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features			
Remarks: All the rest of the materials are typical and in good condition.			



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

NINETEENTH FLOOR



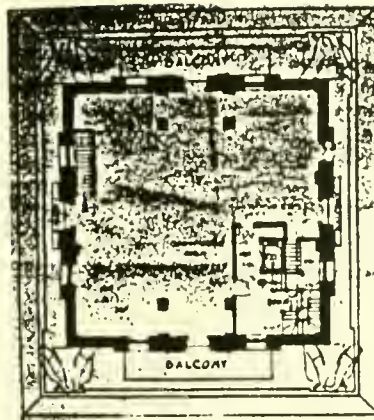
NINETEENTH FLOOR PLAN

Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo
Floor	concrete, painted	fair	
Base-board	none		
Walls	exposed grooved terra cotta block and brick	dirty, painted ivory green	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	same as walls	fair	
Windows	small - only East and West	poor	
Window Frames	wood, house duct on East wall		
Doors	small painted metal		
Door Frames	small painted metal		
Hardware	typical		
Elect. Fixt.	green shaded bulbs		
Special Features			
Remarks:			



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTIETH FLOOR



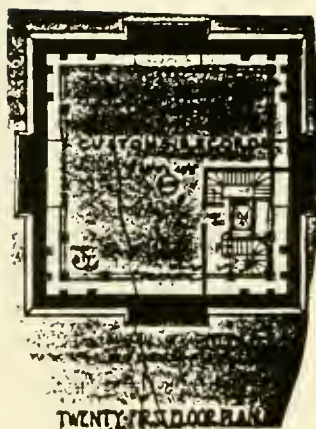
ENTIRE FLOOR  
TWENTIETH FLOOR PLAN

Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpeted over granolithic	carpet good	47
Base-board	terra cotta, painted	some chips and nicks	
Walls	plaster, painted	water damage along east wall	48, 49, 50
Cornice	no - picture rail	good	
Ceiling	plaster, painted	signs of water damage North and East 10-15%	51
Windows	Kalamine	typical corrosion, but good	
Window Frames	painted graining on metal	good, sills are marble and soiled	52
Doors	painted metal and glass	fair	
Door Frames	painted metal	fair	
Hardware	brass plated	fair to poor	
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate	poor	
Special Features			

Remarks: Toilet still in Southwest corner. Structural elements in coffer of high ceiling very handsome. Best floor for space.

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-FIRST FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	concrete	polished, unpainted	
Base-board	none	fair	
Walls	exposed grooved terra cotta and brick	fair	
Cornice	none	fair	
Ceiling	like walls	fair	
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	1 painted metal (graining)		
Door Frames	1 painted metal (graining)		
Hardware	brass plated		
Elect. Fixt.	bare incandescent bulbs		
Special Features			

Remarks: Efflorescence on North and East, remains of utterly missing plaster parging.



Figure 47

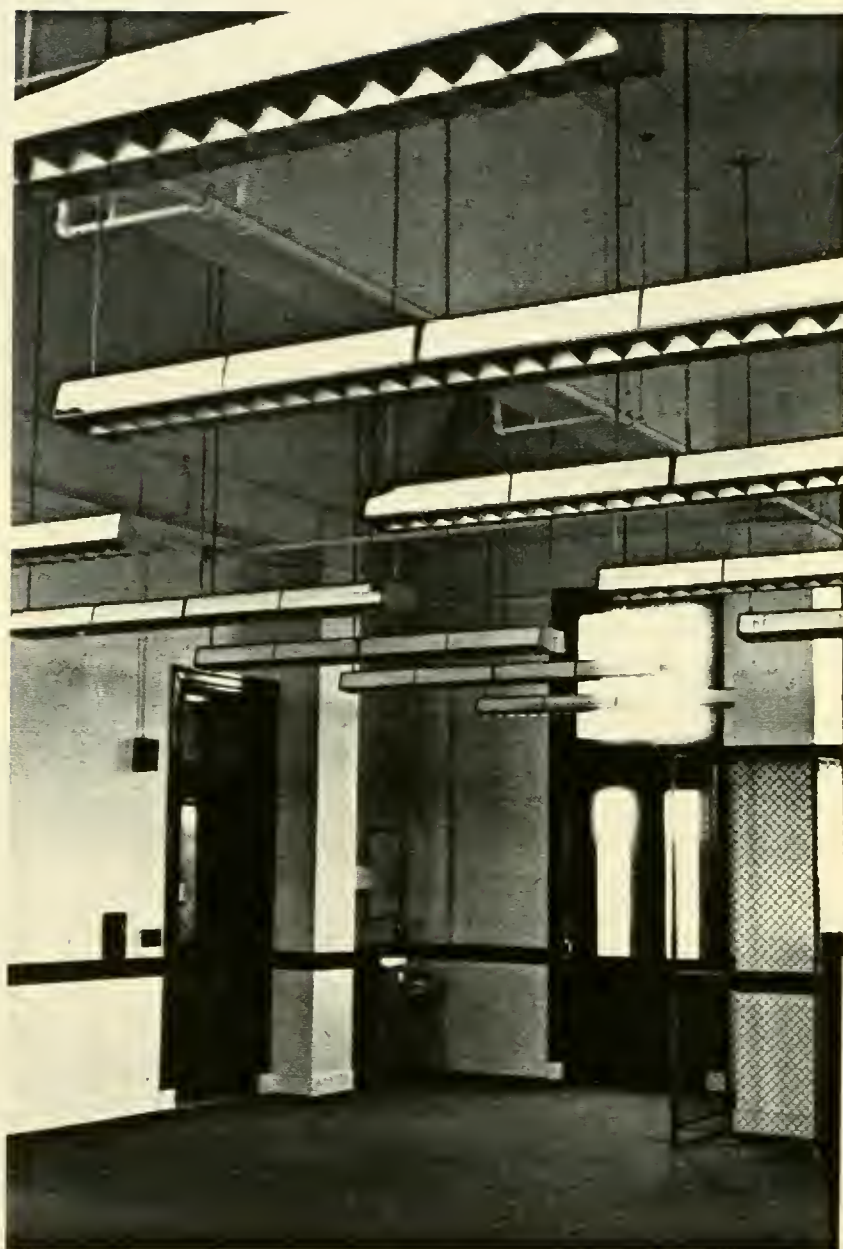


Figure 48



Figure 49



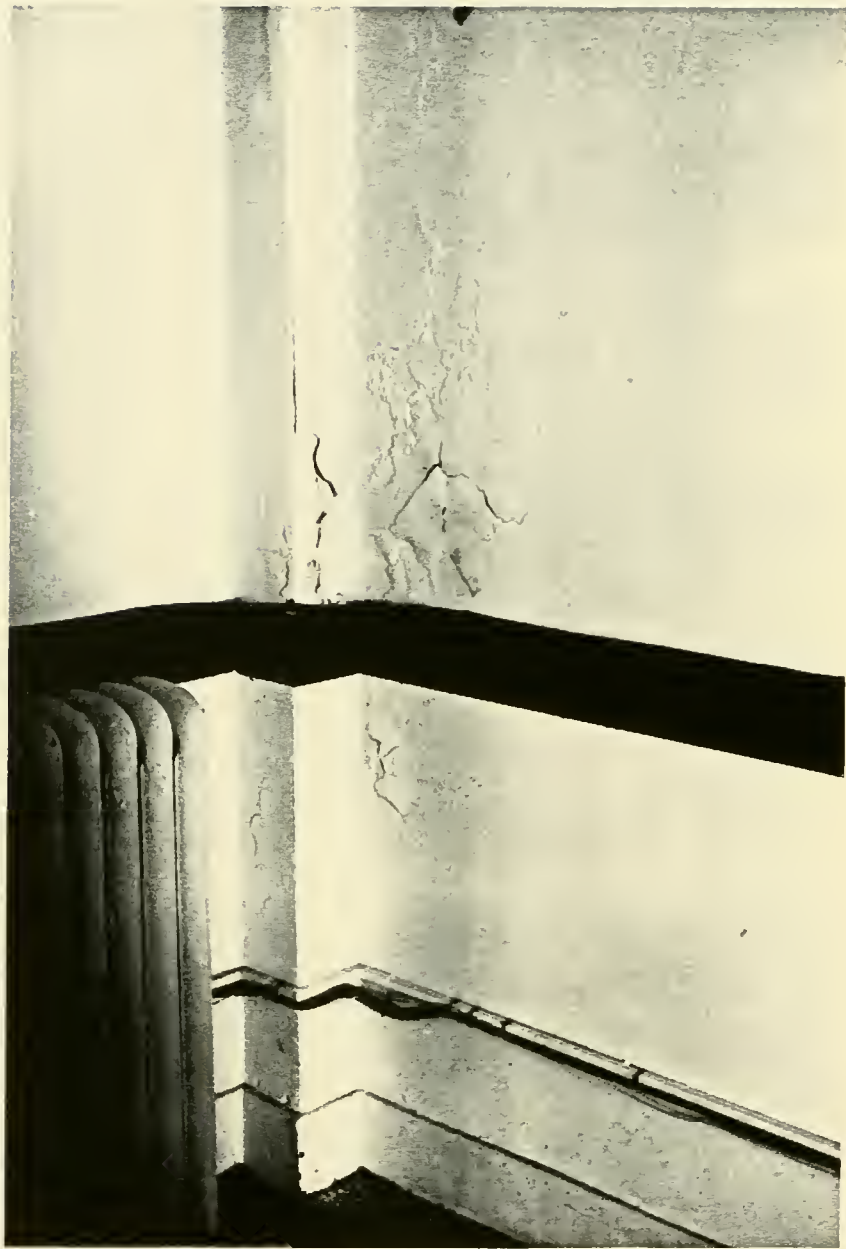


Figure 50

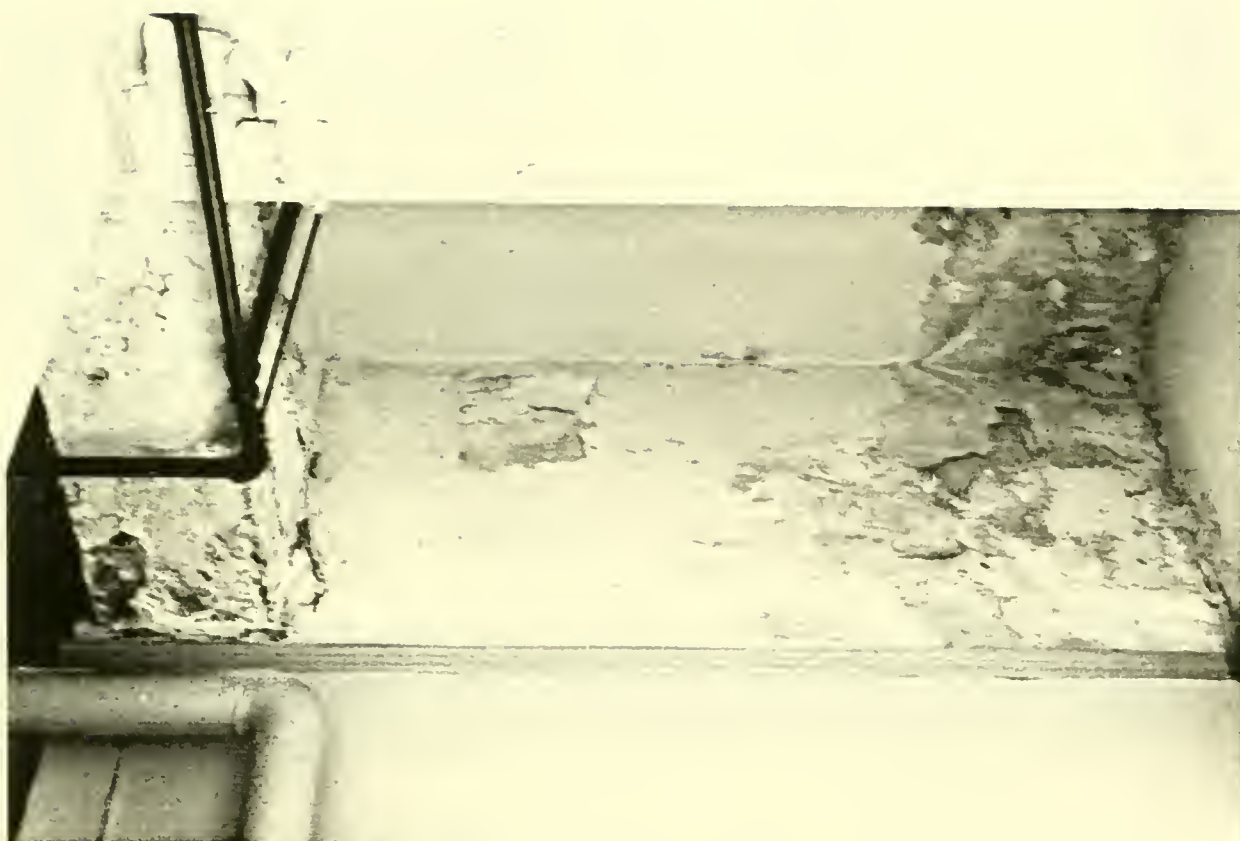


Figure 51



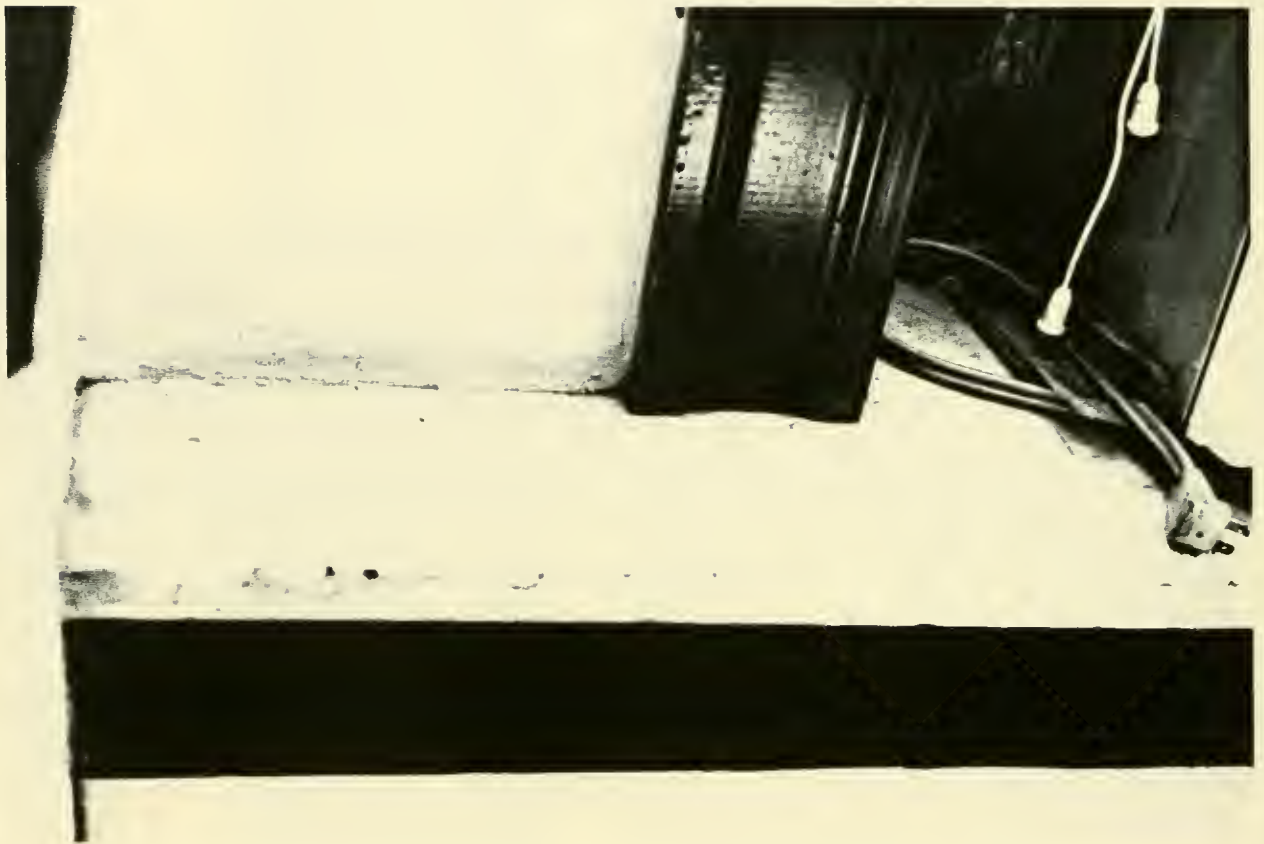
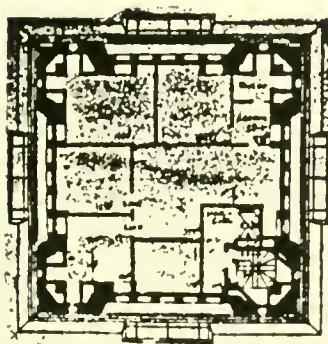


Figure 52

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR



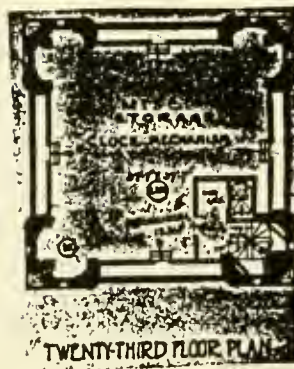
TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR PLAN.

Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	carpet or linoleum over ?	poor	
Base-board	painted terra cotta	fair	
Walls	plaster and wall board	fair to poor	
Cornice	(picture rail exists)		
Ceiling	dropped acoustical tile	poor - broken	
Windows	small, simpler, very typical	fair to good	53, 54
Window Frames	small, simpler, very typical	fair to good	
Doors	small, simpler, very typical	fair to good	
Door Frames	small, simpler, very typical	fair to good	
Hardware	small, simpler, very typical	fair to good	
Elect. Fixt.	removed		
Special Features			

Remarks: East wall not peeling here; iron grilles over east sash set into exterior marble and badly rusted. Small corner windows at floor level add much light.

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-THIRD FLOOR  
Clock-Machinery Room



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo
Floor	scored concrete	unpainted, dirty but good	
Base-board	4" concrete	painted black, dusty	
Walls	plaster, painted	25-30% chipped, cracked, peeling	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster	25% chipped, cracked, peeling	
Windows	small, in corners, Kalamine	fair to poor	
Window Frames	small, in corners, Kalamine	fair	
Doors	metal (2 flat ones to back of clock face)	fair	55
Door Frames	grained painted metal	fair	
Hardware	iron, steel	fair	
Elect. Fixt.	hanging bulbs on chains		
Special Features			

Remarks: Some original globes missing. Machinery still in working order.

Small box of original 3/4" glass for minute dots in corner; should be saved.

56



Figure 53



Figure 54



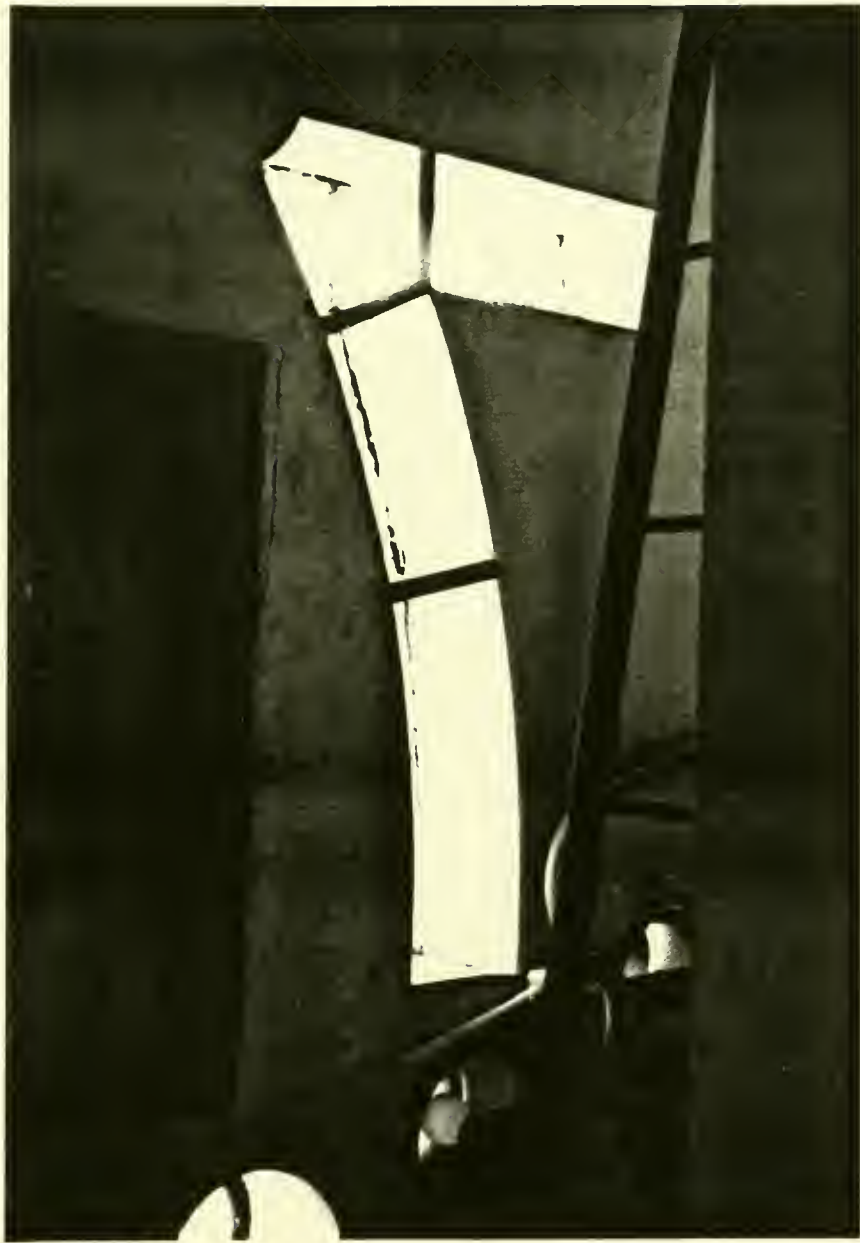


Figure 55

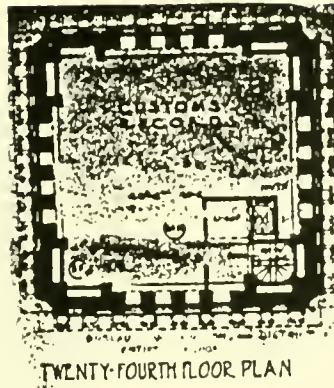


Figure 56



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-FOURTH FLOOR

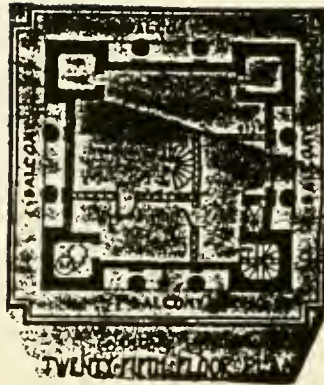


Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor			
Base-board			
Walls			
Cornice			
Ceiling			
Windows			
Window Frames			
Doors			
Door Frames			
Hardware			
Elect. Fixt.			
Special Features			

Remarks: Probably same as other record storage area; except for having windows. Locked at a times.

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-FIFTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	linoleum on painted concrete	poor	
Base-board	black painted terra cotta	poor	
Walls	plaster	50%-60% peeling and cracked especially North, East, and West	
Cornice	picture rail	fair	
Ceiling	plaster	75% peeling - poor	
Windows	typical (simpler)	marble sills removed on North	57
Window Frames	typical (simpler)		
Doors	typical (simpler)		
Door Frames	typical (simpler)		
Hardware	typical (simpler)		
Elect. Fixt.	egg crate		
Special Features			

Remarks: In Southwest stair - much damage to plaster walls and ceiling - new? Iron spiral stair original - keep. Leaks from above on all exterior walls except South. 58, 59, 60



Figure 57

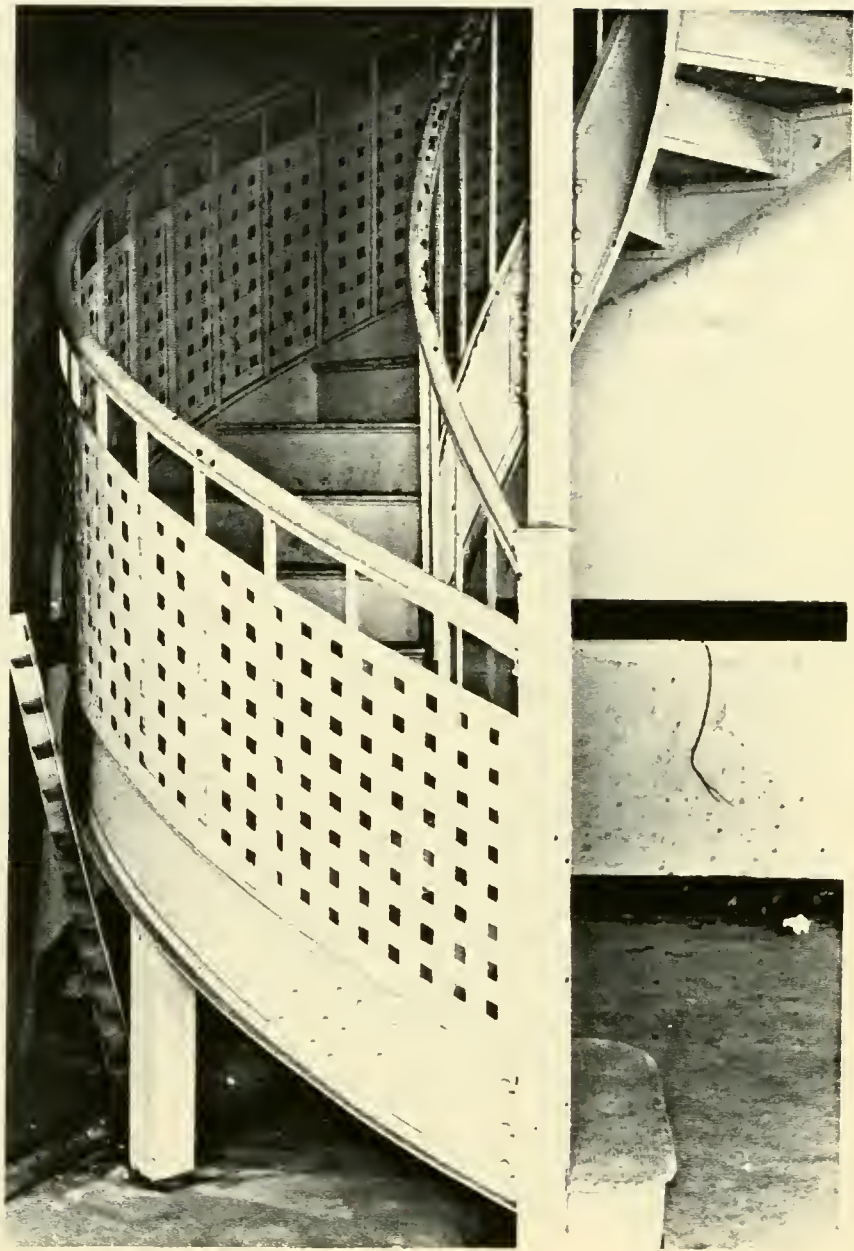


Figure 58



Figure 59

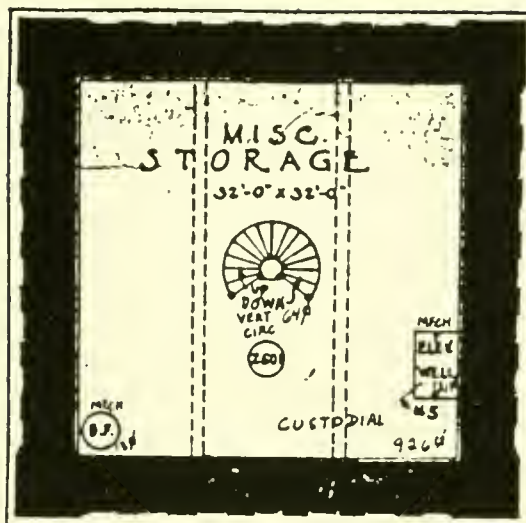




Figure 60

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-SIXTH FLOOR

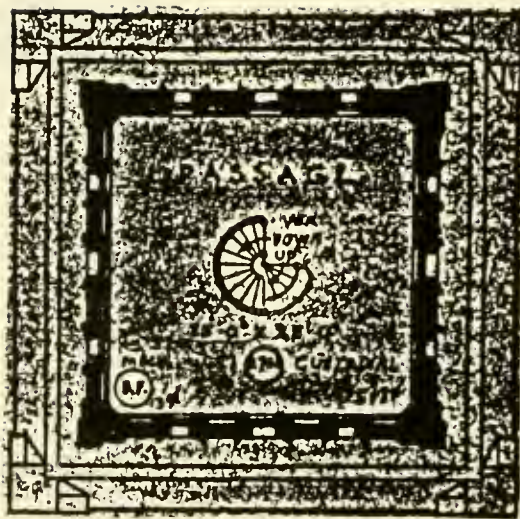


Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	scored concrete	painted and inpainted	
Base-board	none		
Walls	exposed grooved terra cotta block	all effloresced, plaster remnants	61
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	exposed grooved terra cotta block		
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	none		
Elect. Fixt.	fluorescent bars		
Special Features			
Remarks: No windows. Balustrade is basket weave ironwork. Plaster parging all gone.			



Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-SEVENTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	smooth but textured concrete	poor	
Base-board	flat red terra cotta	poor to fair	
Walls	grooved terra cotta block	poor - all effloresced, minor plaster remains	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plastered, painted gray	all cracked and peeling	62
Windows	Kalamine	fair	63
Window Frames	Kalamine	fair	
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	none		
Elect. Fixt.	none		
Special Features			

Remarks: Square cross-section bars, Three are missing.  
on stair.



Figure 61



Figure 62





Figure 63

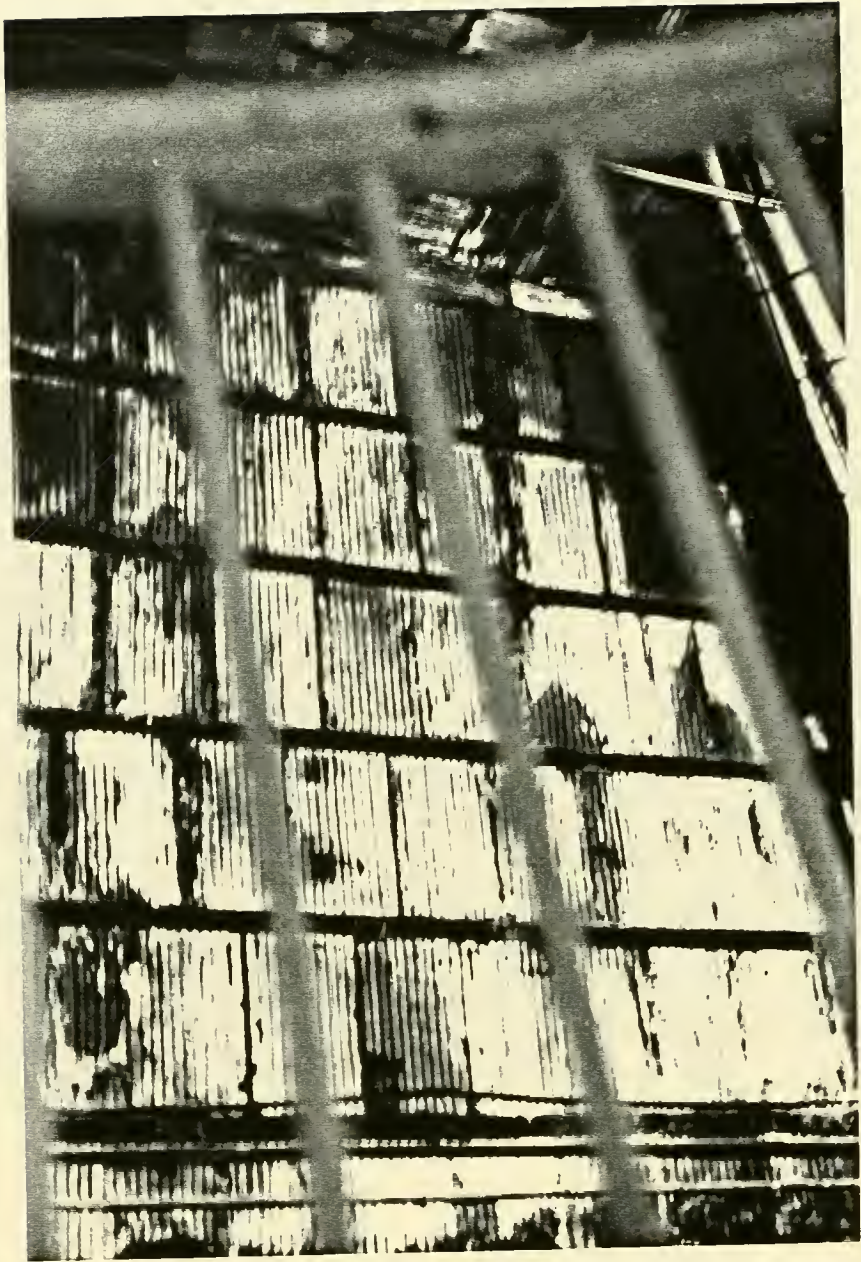


Figure 64

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-EIGHTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	smooth but texture of concrete	poor to fair	
Base-board	red terra cotta	poor to fair	
Walls	grooved terra cotta block	formerly plastered on terra cotta - now bare and damp	64, 65, 66
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	grooved terra cotta block		
Windows	grooved terra cotta block (only 2/wall)		
Window Frames	grooved terra cotta block		
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	none		
Elect. Fixt.	2 bare bulbs in ceramic sockets		
Special Features			
Remarks:	All is effloresced.		

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

TWENTY-NINTH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	smooth but texture of concrete	poor to fair	
Base-board	red terra cotta	poor to fair	
Walls	grooved terra cotta block	poor - all effloresced, minor plaster remains	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plastered, painted gray	all cracked and peeling	
Windows	Kalamine (marble sills)	fair	
Window Frames	Kalamine	fair	67
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	none		
Elect. Fixt.	none		
Special Features			

Remarks: All is fair to poor, like Floor 28 in most respects but spiral stair just needs and preparation. Sash from East wall is stored here. Falcon nesting box in East window.





Figure 65



Figure 66



Figure 67



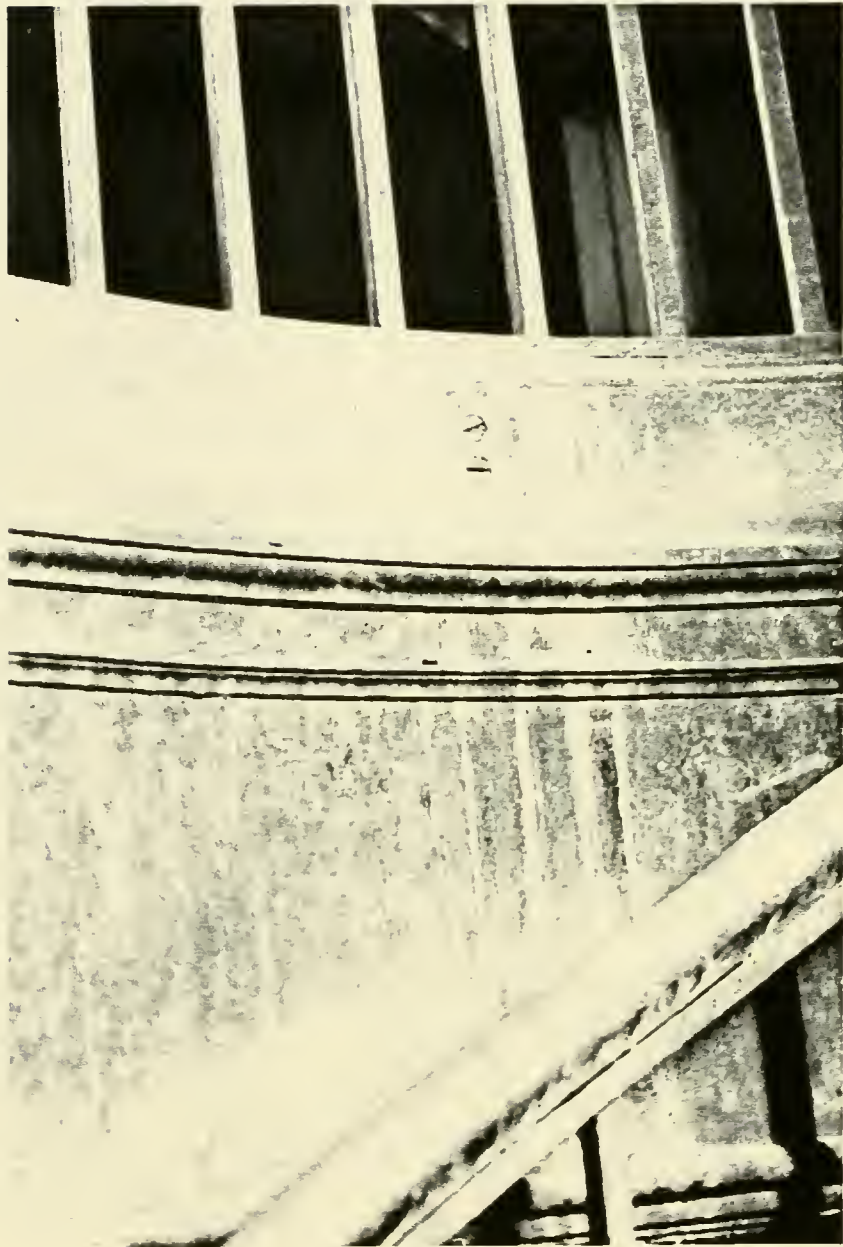


Figure 68



Figure 69



Figure 70

Inventory of  
Existing Conditions

THIRTIETH FLOOR



Element	Material/Description	Condition	Photo#
Floor	concrete with iron I beams	fair	
Base-board	none		
Walls	cement - parged stone (or rough granite?)	parging all missing	
Cornice	none		
Ceiling	plaster	poor	
Windows	none		
Window Frames	none		
Doors	none		
Door Frames	none		
Hardware	none		
Elect. Fixt.	bare bulb (?)		
Special Features			
Remarks: Almost filled by huge flue. Access only through trap door.			

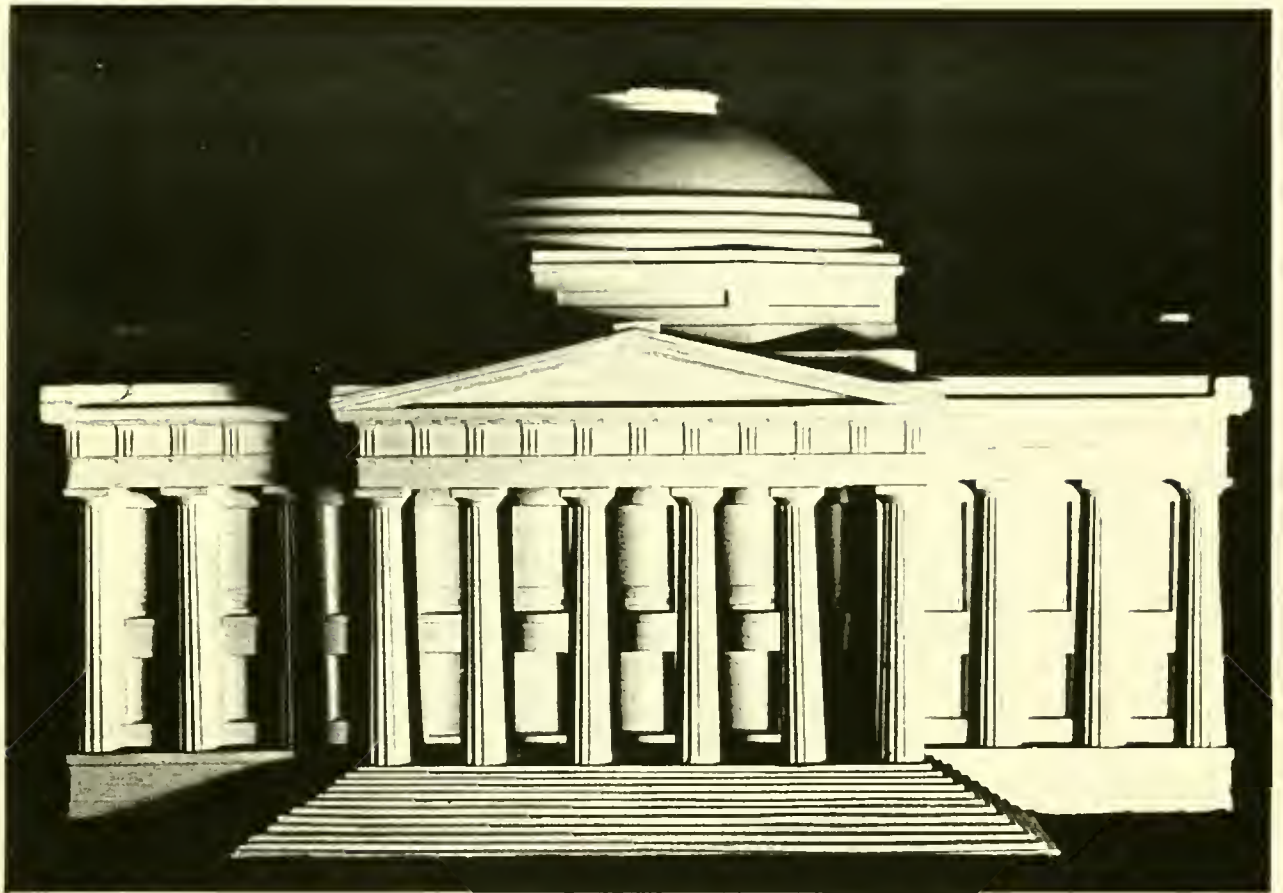




### SECTION 3

INVENTORY AND SURVEY OF HISTORICAL FABRIC  
AND EXISTING CONDITIONS IN EXTERIOR SPACES





1 - Custom House and Tower: West facade.



2 - Bronze Door to main floor, west entry.



3 - Detail of stairs to west entry showing need for pointing and caulk.



4 - Detail of bent handrail, north side of west entry.





5 - Detail of chipped base of granite column of west facade.



6 - Window over west entry doors, showing black caulk used poorly.



7 - Window to the north of west entry, main floor,  
showing uneven stains and some black caulk.



8 - Detail of window in Figure 7.



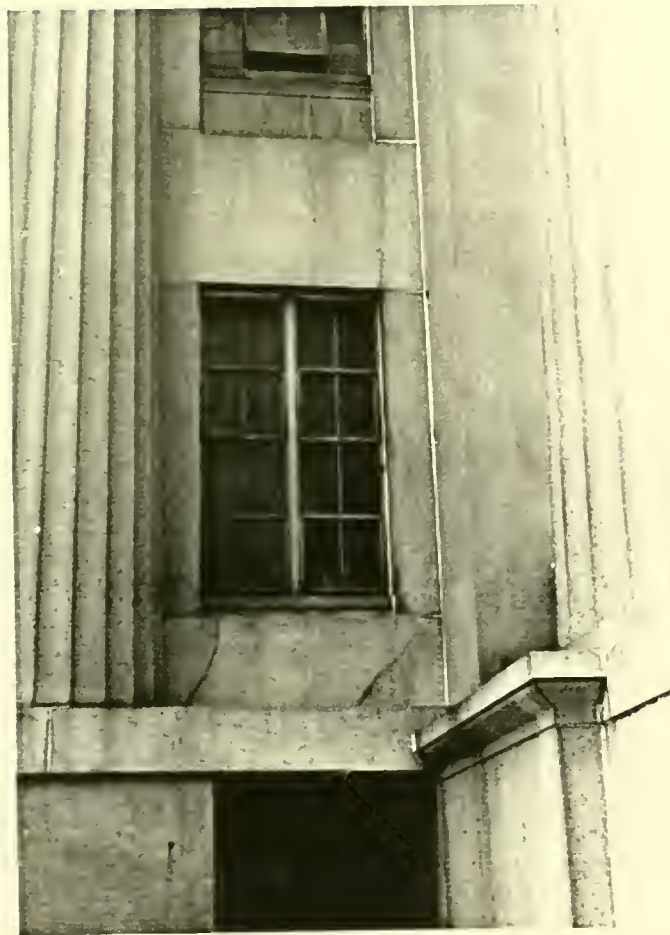
9 - Over-all view of northern side of west elevation.



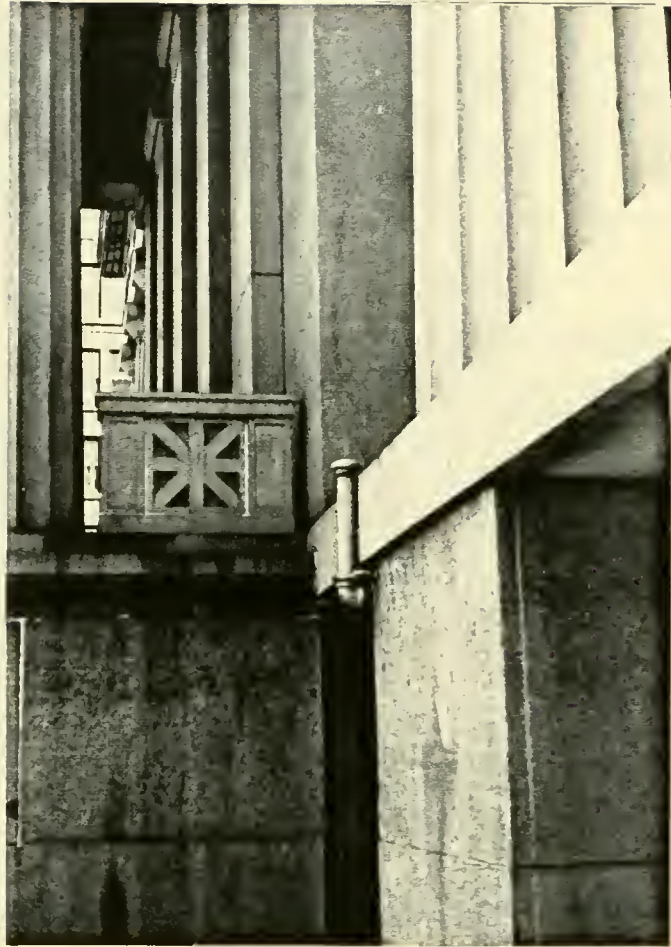


10 - View of architrave, frieze and cornice of northern side of west elevation, showing some water stains.





11 - View of 1949 windows and cracked grainte block on northern side of West elevation.



12 - View of west entry portico, top of stairs, from the south. Peabody and Stearns solid granite balustrade section.



13 - View of 1949 office window, principal floor, to south of west entry, showing white caulk, vent stack and air conditioner (typical).



14 - South portico pediment, showing one small section of missing stone.



15 - South elevation of Tower, showing dark mortar,  
lighter replacement corner blocks.



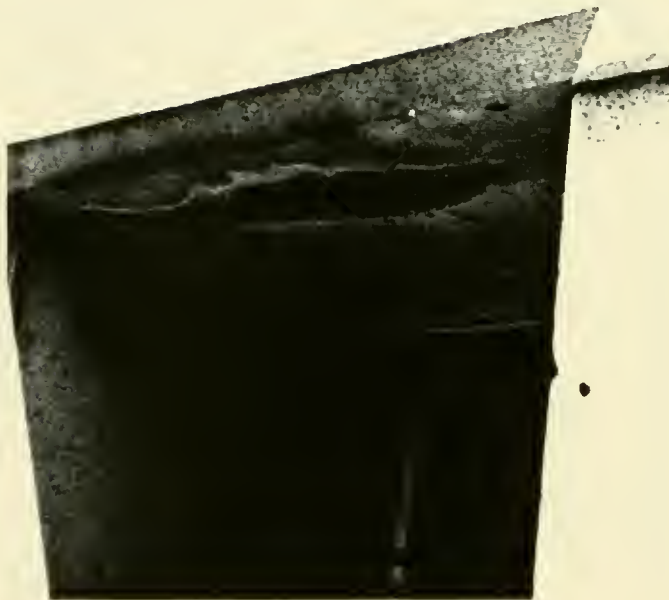


16 - Doorway to ground floor, south entrance, Peabody and Stearns (except for light fixture). Brass polish has damaged wood; wood needs refinishing.





17 - Window to the east of south entrance, ground floor;  
typical conditions.



18 - Close view of window to the east of south elevation, ground floor, showing effects of water from air conditioner.



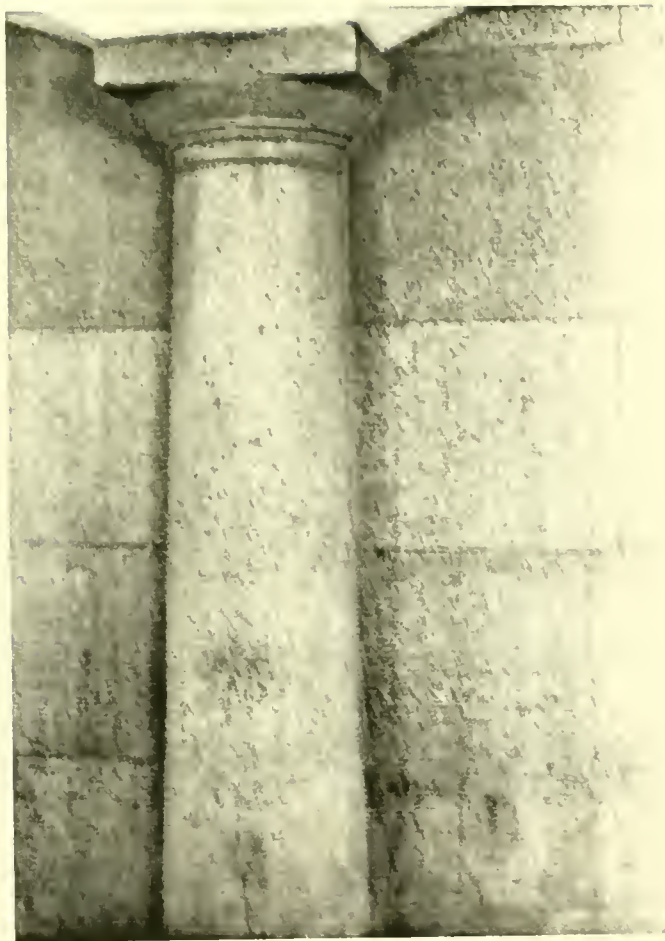
19 - South elevation, typical 1949 window, old mortar from sign, to be removed.



20 -

21 -

22 - Views of Young's granite columns and walls on the basement floor (street level), showing typical conditions: oily and black stains from hands at about three to four feet from the floor; blackened areas at the base from floor waxes.



20 -

21 -

22 - Views of Young's granite columns and walls on the basement floor (street level), showing typical conditions: oily and black stains from hands at about three to four feet from the floor; blackened areas at the base from floor waxes.



20 -

21 -

22 - Views of Young's granite columns and walls on the basement floor (street level), showing typical conditions: oily and black stains from hands at about three to four feet from the floor; blackened areas at the base from floor waxes.





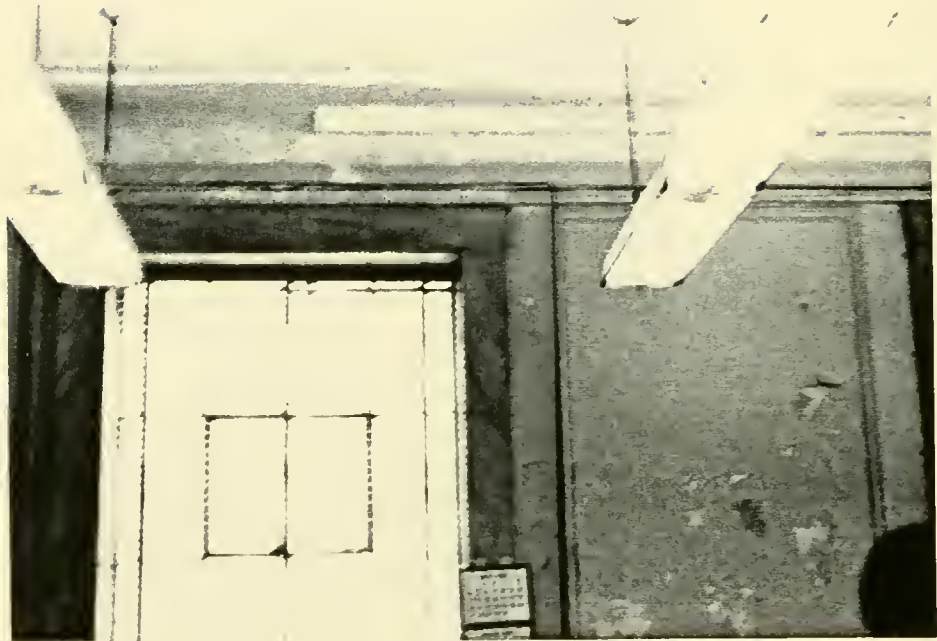
23 - View on the basement floor showing typical placement of signs on the walls, metal door (Peabody and Stearns) painted with wood graining, typical of those throughout the building.



24 - View of the main stairs (Peabody and Stearns) to the second floor showing granolithic treads placed on top of marble, c. 1950, and general uneven appearance of marble.



25 - View at head of stairs from basement of first floor, showing end of granite walls.



26 - View of east wall in Auditor's Office, in south flank, showing loss of plaster cornice and peeling skim coat.



27 - Detail of painted graining on metal door outside Banking Room, showing a paint problem typical on about 2% of the surfaces.



28 - View of elevator detail on second floor, showing trim which post-dates Peabody and Stearns, and was originally painted with a bronze gold paint when new.



## SECTION 4

## APPENDIX



## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

### SUB-BASEMENT

- SB-1; Rotunda, looking west.
- SB-2; New granite piers laid up against original granite walls of rotunda.
- SB-3; Storage room, southeast of rotunda.  
Note 1837 rotunda wall (right) and 1912 wall containing tower substructure (left).
- SB-4; 1837 granite piers and groin vaults, south wing.
- SB-5; 1837 granite pier and vault springing, south wing.
- SB-6; 1837 granite pier and vaulting, south wing.
- SB-7; Exterior foundation, south room.

### BASEMENT

- B-1; Rotunda.
- B-2; Rotunda, northeast wall.
- B-3; Rotunda, detail of column.
- B-4; South corridor, detail of column.
- B-5; South corridor, looking north.
- B-6; South corridor, looking south.
- B-7; Entry doors, south corridor.
- B-8; Door to southwest offices, south corridor.
- B-9; 1837 corbel, south corridor.
- B-10; 1912 corbel, north corridor.
- B-11; Southwest office suite, looking south.
- B-12; Southwest office suite, looking north.
- B-13; Lavatory with 1912 marble wainscotting and granolithic floor, southwest office suite.
- B-14; 1837 corbel, southeast office suite.
- B-15; Detail, granite wall of rotunda adjacent to stairs.
- B-16; Stair balustrade.
- B-17; Stairs.
- B-18; Floor of rotunda.

## FIRST FLOOR

- 1-1; Rotunda.
- 1-2; Door to north wing.
- 1-3; Door to south wing.
- 1-4; Marble balustrade as seen from basement.
- 1-5; Detail, marble door frame in rotunda.
- 1-6; Stairs.
- 1-7; Stairs.
- 1-8; Grille over elevator well window opposite stairs.
- 1-9; Lobby, north wing.
- 1-10; Customs secretary's office.
- 1-11; Director's office, looking north.
- 1-12; Director's office, south wall.
- 1-13; Director's office, looking north.
- 1-14; Chandelier, Director's office.
- 1-15; Director's office, southeast corner.
- 1-16; Director's office, detail, southeast corner.
- 1-17; Director's office, north wall.
- 1-18; Director's office, northwest corner.
- 1-19; Detail, pre 1912 marble dado, south wall.
- 1-20; Director's private office.
- 1-21; Special deputy's office.
- 1-22; South wing.
- 1-23; East wall, south wing.
- 1-24; Partition at northwest corner, south wing.

## SECOND FLOOR

- 2-1; Rotunda, looking south.
- 2-2; Plaque, west window alcove.
- 2-3; Ceiling in west window alcove.
- 2-4; East window recess, ceiling.
- 2-5; Detail, door to north wing.
- 2-6; Lobby, north wing.
- 2-7; Ceiling in Lobby, north wing.
- 2-8; Women's toilet, north wing.
- 2-9; Ceiling - Auditor's room, south wing, southeast corner.
- 2-10; Auditor's room, south wing, east wall.
- 2-11; Auditor's room, south wing, northeast corner.
- 2-12; Detail, coved ceiling, Auditor's room, south wing.
- 2-13; Auditor's room, south wing, northwest corner.
- 2-14; Auditor's room, north wall, behind water fountain.
- 2-15; Auditor's room, wainscot on north wall,  
to west of main door.
- 2-16; Auditor's room, moulding on plaster wall  
above wainscot, north wall.
- 2-17; Typical joint in fluted marble columns of rotunda.
- 2-18;
- 2-19; Balustrade, second floor stair.
- 2-20; Original wall sconce, stairwell in SW corner, 3rd floor

## CUSTOM HOUSE PLANS

Following is an explanation of the abbreviations used in the text and notes regarding the collections in the major repositories of the Custom House drawings.

- 1) National Archives (Nat. Archives); Washington, D.C.,  
Cartographic and Architectural Division.

The National Archives holds the extant 19th century plans including Young's plans, elevations, sections and perspectives, A.B. Mullett's plans for the remodeling of the South wing between 1866 and 1874, and a number of drawings relating to the building of the tower. Most of the Archives' plans are illustrated in the Custom House Historic Structures Report, Vol. I.

- 2) The Boston Public Library (BPL). The library has virtually all of the working drawings for the construction of the tower. The uncataloged collection of several thousand drawings includes:

- Peabody and Stearns 1911 floor plans and elevations, presumably presentation drawings, numbered 91 to 117.

- Peabody and Stearns' working drawings of interior elevations and details (ink on linen).

- The Rockport Granite Co., Rockport, Massachusetts. Detail drawings of granite work submitted, giving dimensions and design of each stone, 1913.

- Hollis, French and Allen Hubbard, consulting engineers. Heating and Plumbing plans, 1911.

- The Monarch Metal Manufacturing Co., Kansas City, Missouri. Shop drawings for metal doors, frames, elevator doors, balustrades, 1914.

- Purdy and Henderson, consulting engineers. Structural plans, beam specifications, 1912.

- Electrical drawings.

- 3) General Services Administration, Boston (GSA). The GSA has about 200 plans on microfilm of 19th century drawings, Peabody and Stearns tower construction and repairs and alterations since 1915. The GSA also has all of the 27 series of linen drawings of alterations and repairs since 1950. See three page list of 27 series drawings of which SPNEA has a copy.





## APPENDIX

### Sources of Granite used in the Construction of the Tower

Granite used to construct the tower comes from three pits on Cape Ann which were quarried by the Rockport Granite Company.

- 1) The Steel Derrick pit, Pigeon Cove, Rockport, which yields a granite dark grey in color with a hint of lavender.
- 2) Flat Ledge, Pigeon Cove, Rockport, which yields a light colored granite.
- 3) The Bay View pit, Gloucester, which also yields a light, colored granite. This old pit, now filled with water, is known to City of Gloucester engineers as the Klondike.

The above information comes from Barbara Howell Erkkila of Gloucester (283-2717). Erkkila wrote a history of the Cape Ann granite industry, Hammers on Stone, in 1981 (Boston Public Library). She learned the source of the Custom House granite during a personal interview with Lewis Rogers, retired treasurer of the Rockport Granite Company. The company has been out of business since 1930.

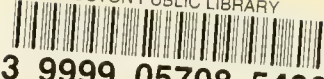


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